

Hafa Adai!

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Do you believe Russian and Chinese tourists are essential to the survival of the CNMI's tourism industry?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS

PHASE 6

As of August 10, 2009

Phase 1: Viruses circulating among animals have yet to cause infections in humans.

Phase 2: An animal influenza virus is causing infection in humans, and is considered a potential pandemic threat.

Phase 3: An animal or human-animal influenza virus has caused sporadic cases or small clusters of disease in people, but has not resulted in human-to-human transmission sufficient to sustain community-level outbreaks.

Phase 4: Verified human-to-human transmission of an animal or human-animal influenza virus able to cause "community-level outbreaks."

Phase 5: A strong signal that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication, and implementation of planned mitigation measures is short.

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnnmpheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE



Salvage Ops

Divers pulled a helicopter and four more bodies out of the murky Hudson River.

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Tinian municipality cuts work hours by 8. PAGE 5

Dr. Rita Inos, 55, dies of cancer

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Former Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Inos passed away early yesterday morning at the Commonwealth Health Center of cancer.

Saipan Tribune learned that Inos, 55, was taken to the hospital about 2am Monday but was declared dead on arrival after doctors failed to revive her.

Her brother, Angel Hocog, confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday the pass-

ing of his sister, whom he described as a "very loving and caring" individual.

Hocog said Inos, a native of Rota, was temporarily staying on Saipan prior to Monday's incident when she was rushed

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Two Corrections officers arrested for alleged brutality

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Two Corrections officers were separately arrested Friday and yesterday after an investigation into a letter to the editor revealed that an inmate was allegedly beaten up and the incident covered up.

Corrections Sergeant Arnold Kaipat Seman, 40, and Corrections II Manuel Quitano, 33, were arrested on charges of misconduct in public office, and assault and battery. Quitano was also charged

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Marshals seize Tim's boat

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. Marshal's Office took custody Saturday of the yacht owned by former lieutenant governor Timothy P. Villagomez.

The vessel, a 1994 Yamaha 31-footer boat registered as *Dr. V.*, is subject



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'NMI concerns will be considered'



U.S. Virgin Islands Rep. Donna Christensen, left, answers reporters' questions while CNMI Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, second from left, U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources chair Rep. Nick Rahall II of West Virginia, and Guam Rep. Madeleine Bordallo, right, look on during a news briefing at the Pacific Islands Club shortly before leaving for Guam yesterday afternoon. Also in the news briefing was South Carolina Rep. Henry Brown.

No further delay in federalization seen, DHS regs soon

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

U.S. House Natural Resources Committee chair Rep. Nick Rahall II (D-WV)

and the rest of the congressional delegation left Saipan yesterday with an assurance that the concerns raised by CNMI leaders and community members on federalization "will be taken into con-

sideration," including those of the visa waiver program and immigration status for foreign workers.

Rahall made it clear his committee—

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Local

111 file candidacies for 40 seats in Nov. election

12 beat filing deadline; 75 more certified by CEC

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Election Commission closed yesterday the filing of election candidacies, with a record 111 applicants vying for the 40 seats up for grabs in the general elections in November.

The agency did not receive a single legislative initiative when it closed the deadline yesterday at 4:30pm.

So far, only one popular initiative is now sure of being on the ballot in November: the proposed inclusion of the Legislature in the application of the Open Government Act.

On Nov. 7, CNMI voters will vote for a governor and lieutenant governor, six seats for the Senate, 18 in the House of Representatives, four mayors of populated islands, two Board of Education seats, and nine council members for all islands.

Records obtained by *Saipan Tribune* show that, of the 111 candidates, 50 are running for House seats in various precincts on three islands.

A total of 18 candidates will be jockeying for the six vacant Senate slots.

Although the three islands would only need nine municipal council members, the Election Commission recorded 19 applicants for the position.

The mayoralty positions for Saipan, Rota and Tinian have 15 candidates as of yesterday noon, while three are seeking for Board of Education slots.

The Election Commission certified 75 more candidates, in addition to the 24 it approved last week.

Of the newly certified candidates, 26 belong to the Republican Party; 17 from the Covenant Party; one Democratic Party member; 20 independent candidates; and 11 persons for nonpartisan positions.

The 19 newly certified candidates under the Covenant Party are House contenders: Vicente Cabrera, Benjamin Cepeda, Canice Taitano, Froilan Tenorio, Antonia Tudela, Raymond Pal-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Angelo Villagomez, Democratic nominee for Mayor of Saipan, turns over his nominating petition to the Commonwealth Election Commission on Monday, Aug. 10.

cios, Rafael Demapan, Henry Rabauliman, Jesus Elameto, Edmund Villagomez, David Maratita, Felicidad Ogunomo, Thomas Camacho, Sylvestre Iguel, Daniel Quitugua, Ramon Basa, and Edwin Aldan.

Under the GOP banner, Heinz Hofsneider and Arnold Palacios were certified as the party's gubernatorial bets, along with Ramon Dela Cruz and Donald Flores for mayoralty positions.

Four GOP Senate bets were also certified: Jude Hofsneider, Pete Reyes, Ralph Torres, and Diego Benavente.

A total of 19 individuals were approved to run under the GOP

banner in November.

The 17 independent candidates who were certified are all running for House seats in various precincts.

'Sablan, 11 others beat filing deadline'

Incumbent Rep. Tina Sablan was among the 12 individuals who filed their candidacies at the last minute. Sablan is seeking higher office: a Senate seat for Saipan.

Another candidate surprised the public when he filed his intention to run for mayor of Saipan: Angelo Villagomez. Independent bets Candido Ta-

man and Juan Demapan also filed their candidacies for the same position.

Former NMC Alumni Association president Jesse Torres joined the last day of filing as a House of Representative candidate.

Others who filed yesterday included Stanley Torres, Willie Brundidge Jr., and Raymond Palacios—all for House seats.

James Mendiola, Lucia Blanco-Maratita, and Norbert Mendiola filed for Board of Education seats.

Eric Diaz also submitted a petition to run as municipal council member for Saipan.

Ombudsman's Office staff sues Baka, Grey over denial of his wife's entry

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A staff at the Federal Ombudsman's Office is suing acting Attorney General Gregory Baka and Immigration director Melvin Grey for allegedly refusing to issue a waiver that would allow his Bangladeshi wife to come to the CNMI.

Mohammad Feroj Ahmed, through counsel Mark B. Hanson, sued Baka and Grey for retaliation and deprivation of his constitutional rights.

Ahmed asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to order the defendants to pay him damages, attorney's fees, and court costs.

Ahmed, a Bangladeshi, arrived in the CNMI in 1996 as a contract worker. Starting in 1998, he was actively involved in various workers rights movements in the Commonwealth.

As a founding member and officer of the United Workers Alliance, an alien workers rights group formed in 1998, Ahmed was outspoken on issues of labor abuses and human rights violations in the CNMI.

Through Ahmed's work with the United Workers Alliance, he

met with various U.S. congressional delegations that visited the CNMI and discussed with congressmen and their staffers the concerns of alien workers and the CNMI government's failure to protect contract workers' rights.

In 1999, Ahmed was interviewed by a *New York Times* reporter where he talked about rampant illegal recruitment of foreign labor and egregious labor abuses in the CNMI. That interview appeared in the *New York Times Magazine* later that year.

In 2000, Ahmed accepted a position with the then newly created Federal Ombudsman's Office as a caseworker and translator, assisting alien workers with labor and employment related grievances against employers.

In March 2004, the Office of the Attorney General created Section 804 to give the Attorney General discretion to deny the issuance of entry permits to certain foreign nationals, citizens and residents from various countries and providing for waivers and exceptions from blanket country exclusions.

Since its adoption in 2004,

Hanson said, Bangladesh has been on the excluded countries list.

On Aug. 5, 2008, Ahmed married Azmery Sultana in Bangladesh. Four months later, Ahmed applied for an exemption for his new wife to enter the CNMI from Bangladesh.

After waiting for almost two months for a response, Baka notified Ahmed on Feb. 3, 2009, that his wife would not be granted a discretionary waiver.

Hanson said the reason stated in Baka's letter to Ahmed was that "it was not in the best interest of the Commonwealth that the exclusion be waived."

Hanson said Baka also referred to the passage of Public Law 110-229 (federal takeover legislation) on May 8, 2008, as arising from the Commonwealth's inability to manage its own immigration.

Hanson said Baka "somewhat what insultingly and wholly irrelevantly" suggested that Ahmed and his wife apply to the U.S. Department of State for a visa—a visa that would presumably allow Sultana to travel to the U.S., but not necessarily to the Commonwealth.

Hanson said Grey's com-

ments to Ahmed soon after the waiver denial clarified Baka's odd comments on the federal takeover of Commonwealth immigration in his denial letter, "shedding light on the actual basis of the denial of waiver for Sultana."

The lawyer said Grey's comments to Ahmed included: "The whole Federal Ombudsman's Office worked for the federalization and now the federal government cannot address your problem? You are a part of that office, they worked for federal takeover and that happened, so the federal government should take care of your problem."

Ahmed appealed to Baka, providing support letters from the U.S. Attorney's Office, a Federal Bureau of Investigation agent, a U.S. Labor investigator and others.

To date, Hanson said, Baka has failed to respond to the appeal.

"Because of defendants' retaliation against Mr. Ahmed, he has been denied of opportunity to be united with his new wife and he has suffered immeasurable emotional distress as a result," Hanson added.



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.

Who's traveling our Northern Mariana Islands? Let's find out more about the visitors from our major markets.

Russia

Russia, along with China, is a secondary tourism market for the Northern Marianas. Last fiscal year, visitors from Russia comprised 2% of all visitors (6,178 out of 396,497 total arrivals). However, the market is significant; as the average Russian visitor spends over \$3,700 on-island during their visit, one Russian visitor equals the economic benefit of 3.7 packaged tourists. So far this fiscal year, Russians make up 2% of all visitors arrivals (5,479 of 276,680 arrivals through June 2009), and Russian arrivals are up 24% overall this year.

Who is our average Russian visitor? In July 2009, 58 percent of them were females and 42 percent were males. The largest age group was under age 13 (29 percent). Almost two-thirds of them (60 percent) were on their first visit to the CNMI, while 30 percent had visited the CNMI before (10 percent did not respond).

Who do our Russian visitors travel with, and how do they make their travel arrangements? 57 percent of Russians traveling to the Northern Marianas last month were traveling with children, and 31 percent were traveling with spouses. Ninety-eight percent were traveling for pleasure; the overwhelming travel plan during their stay was golf (53 percent), followed by diving, getting married (both 25 percent) and others.

What influences our average Russian visitor to choose the Northern Marianas over other destinations? The most popular factors were travel agents (53 percent), followed by climate, friends and family, and others.

So the next time you see a visitor you think might be from Russia, smile and give them a warm "hafa adai" welcome!



Tina Sablan faces off with 7 others for Saipan Senate seat

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Rep. Tina Sablan (I-Saipan) is facing off with seven other candidates seeking a Senate seat on Saipan. She filed her candidacy on the last day of filing yesterday.

Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* that she is looking forward to debates with the seven other candidates.

The eight candidates are v-

ing for two Saipan Senate seats. She said she would continue to advocate for greater transparency in the Senate as she has done these past 18 months in the House.

Besides Sablan, the other independent candidates are Paul Camacho and Taotao Tano president Greg Cruz.

Under the Republican Party is Senate President Pete P. Reyes seeking re-election, and Rep. Ralph Torres.

The Covenant Party contenders are Deputy Labor Secretary Cinta Kaipat and former Rep. Ana Teregeyo.

In a statement yesterday, Sablan said as a senator she would be in an excellent position to help improve the process by which confirmation of appointments to critical government boards and commissions are made.

She said advice and consent for board and commission appointments are functions unique

to the Senate for the most part, and, "unfortunately these functions have not been carried out as diligently as they should have been in prior years, with often negative consequences."

"As senator, I would be committed to carefully scrutinizing the backgrounds and qualifications of all gubernatorial nominations, and exploring ways to improve the confirmation process formally through legislation," said Sablan, currently the youngest member of the House.

spectives to the table of government, and who would act responsibly and conscientiously on behalf of their constituents, with the long-term interests of the CNMI in mind.

"This year, I have been encouraged by the number of individuals fresh to politics who have announced their candidacies in the House. Fresh perspectives are needed in the Senate as well, and I believe that I can contribute considerably in that regard," she added.

The CNMI, she said, needs new, honest and visionary leaders who would bring fresh per-

Info sought on sale of tobacco to minors

The Office of the Attorney General is seeking information from the public about the sale of tobacco products to minors. "Tobacco products" means any tobacco preparation, including but not limited to, chewing tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, any cigarette products, or snuff.

Any resident with information concerning this activity is encouraged to contact the Office

of the Attorney General so an investigation can be initiated.

If a member of the public wishes to provide information or file a complaint, he or she may do so by calling the Attorney General's Investigative Unit at 664-2312.

Concerned citizens may also contact the Office of the Attorney General on Capital Hill at 664-2341. (PR)

for a federal visa waiver for the CNMI's China and Russia tourism markets.

But Sablan said yesterday that he met with Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano last week, and was told that DHS will release the regulations concerning the implementation of federalization in two to three weeks.

He said there has been some "movements" within DHS as a result of pressure from Bordallo's subcommittee, the congressional delegation visit to Saipan in July, and others.

Rahall's congressional delegation, which arrived on Sat-

Flurry of federal officials visiting after Rahall's delegation

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The CNMI should expect a flurry of key federal officials and staffers this month following the visit of U.S. House Natural Resources Committee chair Rep. Nick Rahall II (D-WV) and five other House members on a fact-finding mission on federalization.

U.S. Senate Committee on

Energy and Natural Resources staffers Allen Stayman and Isaac Edwards will also be here toward the end of the month to further discuss federalization issues with local officials.

Senate President Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan) said Stayman and Edwards, along with Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, will have a courtesy visit with local lawmakers on Aug. 27.

Both the U.S. House Natural Resources Committee chaired by Rahall and the U.S. Senate on Energy and Natural Resources chaired by Sen. Jeff Bingaman have jurisdictions over U.S. insular areas.

On Aug. 18, the CNMI House and Senate will have a joint meeting with Rear Admiral Douglas Todd Biesel, commander of the U.S. Naval Forces Marianas, at 10am.

Tony Babauta, who is President Obama's nominee as assistant secretary for insular areas with the U.S. Department of the Interior, will be having a meeting with CNMI lawmakers on Aug. 24 at 10am, according to Reyes.

Ray Mabus, the secretary of the Navy, will also have a brief meeting with CNMI officials on Aug. 24 at 3pm.

NMI

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which has jurisdiction over insular areas—will take its lead from the CNMI's first non-voting delegate, Rep. Gregorio Kilili Sablan, on federalization.

"It is our effort to strike a balance here and to do what is necessary to help fulfill our responsibility to the CNMI," he said.

In a news briefing yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club before the congressional delegation headed for Guam, Sablan said it is important to include China and Russia in the CNMI-Guam tourist visa waiver program.

Rep. Madeleine Bordallo (D-GU), chair of the Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Fisheries, Oceans and Wildlife, said Guam supports the visa waiver program.

She said Rahall's visit speaks of the importance placed by the committee on issues affecting the insular areas.

With Congress having 441 members, Bordallo said it is a challenge to get everyone interested in small insular areas that, in many cases, are not treated the same way as states and other jurisdictions.

No to further delay

Sablan also reiterated his statement that he does not want any further delay in the Nov. 28 implementation of Public Law 110-229 or the federalization law.

A separate statement from Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, who met with the Rahall delegation yesterday morning, said he supports extending the implementation of federal immigration rules by one year since the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has yet to come up with draft regulations for investor and worker visas.

Fitial said this should allow

Fund, admin settlement negotiation yet to start

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Two months after the Superior Court ruled that the CNMI government owes the NMI Retirement Fund \$231 million in unpaid employer's contribution, nothing has been set up between the parties to begin settlement discussions.

Fund administrator Mark Aguon disclosed this to the Fund board of trustees during its regular meeting last week.

Saipan Tribune learned that

a notice has been sent to the governor's office on the designation of a negotiating team representing the Fund but a response has yet to be received as of last week.

Aguon said only a letter from the presiding officers of the Legislature was transmitted to the Fund where a briefing is being scheduled.

Aguon emphasized that the schedule is only for a "briefing" and not the proper negotiation process.

"We haven't actually met

with the negotiating team of the administration..." Aguon reported to the board, adding that a follow-up communication will be transmitted to the Executive Branch as soon as possible.

Former board chair Juan T. Guerrero, during last week's board meeting, expressed frustration over the "inaction" of the central government on the already-decided issue.

However he said, he's counting on the new Fund leadership to continue the direction set by both the board and the retirees.

Guerrero stepped down from his position as he is running for governor in November.

In a letter to Fitial, Guerrero said that, contrary to claims of some people, neither he nor the board ever expressed any interest in forcing a complete and immediate payment of the court judgment.

He urged the governor to push forward in negotiations with the Fund to ensure that the government pays the maximum amount it can afford without unnecessarily endangering the provision of critical services to the community.

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MARSHALS

From Page 1

to a forfeiture case filed by the U.S. government.

The U.S. Marshal served the warrant for the boat on Villagomez. The boat is currently being held at the Smiling Cove Marina.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson issued the warrant on Thursday, directing the U.S. Marshal's Office to seize the vessel.

Munson directed the U.S. Marshal's Office to use whatever means necessary to protect and maintain the boat in their custody until a further court order.

Munson issued the warrant after

the U.S. government on Thursday filed a complaint for civil forfeiture against *Dr. V*.

The judge said he reviewed the U.S. government's complaint as well as its application for warrant of arrest, including an affidavit of a Federal Bureau of Investigation special agent.

Munson said a review of the documents shows probable cause to believe that the boat is subject to forfeiture, in accordance with the Supplemental Rules of Admiralty or Marine Claims and Asset Forfeiture Actions.

In his affidavit, FBI special agent Joseph Auther stated that during the trial of Villagomez and co-defendants James A. Santos and Joaquina Santos,

it was established through testimony and documentary evidence that Villagomez bought *Dr. V* in 2006 for a price of between \$45,000 and \$60,000.

As declared by Villagomez, the money to buy the boat was received from James Santos and his wife, Joaquina Santos, Auther said.

He said James Santos signed a \$50,000 check on Oct. 31, 2006, drawn against an account belonging to Islas Micronesia Sales, a company wholly-owned by James Santos, and made payable to Villagomez.

The agent said ISLAS was one of the companies through which the defendants perpetrated the scheme to defraud the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

On Dec. 7, 2007, James Santos

signed a check drawn against an account owned by himself and Joaquina Santos and made payable Villagomez in the amount of \$15,000, Auther said. The check had the note "drydock/repair/equipment," he added.

In addition to the evidence produced at trial, Auther said an FBI investigation revealed that Villagomez paid \$45,000 in cash for *Dr. V* on Sept. 28, 2006. At the time of purchase, Auther said, the boat was in need of repairs estimated to be at least \$15,000.

The agent said that since Villagomez purchased the boat but prior to Dec. 7, 2007, Villagomez paid for maintenance, repairs, and improvements to the vessel, the sum total of which was \$15,000 to \$20,000.

"The costs associated with the *Dr. V* included costs for drydocking, equipment, and repairs," he said.

"There is reasonable belief that *Dr. V* constitutes, or was derived from, proceeds from the crimes of wire fraud and fraud relating to the program receiving federal funds," Auther added.

Last week Munson sentenced Villagomez to seven years and three months in prison for his role in the Rydlyme corruption scandal.

Joaquina Santos and James A. Santos were sentenced to six years and six months in prison each for their involvement in the scheme to defraud CUC and the United States.

The defendants said they will appeal.

NMI

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urday afternoon and left yesterday afternoon, included Sablan, Bordallo, U.S. Virgin Islands Rep. Donna Christensen, South Carolina Rep. Henry Brown, and American Samoa Rep. Eni Faleomavaega.

With the exemption of Faleomavaega, the members of the delegation held a news briefing yesterday, right after meeting with the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Brown, who visited Saipan for the first time, also spoke of the United States' commitment to the islands because of the men and women who lost their lives here during World War II.

Workers' plight

Rahall, who is also vice chair of the U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, said documented foreign workers' request for improved immigration will be taken into consideration.

"I think certainly their feelings and their comments and suggestions will be taken into consideration, yes," he said.

Rahall, Christensen and Sablan attended Sunday's peaceful assembly of at least a thousand community members, mostly foreign workers, to hear directly from them their concerns about federalization.

Christensen was here two years ago when her then subcommittee held a field hearing on the original bill that became the basis for the CNMI federalization section of P.L. 11-229. She said

they are still committed to supporting the economy of the CNMI.

Hospitality

Sablan invited Rahall and the rest of the delegation to come to the CNMI to hear firsthand from many individuals the impact of policies from Washington, D.C., including federalization.

The delegation recognized House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's approval of their fact-finding mission to the CNMI, as well as to American Samoa, Palau and Guam.

Rahall, Christensen, Bordallo and Brown said they're grateful for the hospitality shown by the CNMI during their brief stay on Saipan.

Rahall and Christensen repeatedly said that Sablan "has done a tremen-

dous job in his first year as the delegate from the CNMI."

Fitial thanked Rahall and the delegation for visiting and listening to CNMI concerns.

"I am very pleased to learn of the increasing legislative support for the CNMI-Guam visa waiver issue, and I look forward to more positive communications with key federal policymakers and better relations with our federal government," he said.

Fitial hosted a dinner for the delegation on Sunday night. On Monday morning, they had breakfast with members of the CNMI Legislature.

That was followed by a courtesy call on the governor, and a meeting with mayors.

Fitial, in a statement, said he and his Cabinet members covered a variety of

topics with the visiting delegation, including the vulnerability of the CNMI economy and its ability to sustain further federal wage hikes, the visa waiver issue, and DHS' readiness to fully implement U.S. immigration law in the Commonwealth.

At the meeting, Fitial sought the federal government's assistance for the CNMI's pressing health care needs, including the hiring of qualified doctors and medical professionals. Fitial also asked for federal funds for health care and for continued access to medical professionals under the new federal immigration rules.

Rahall said they also met with officials from DHS, the U.S. Attorney's Office, Social Security office, Department of the Interior, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

and eventual transfer to the cell for misdemeanor offenders.

Quitano also allegedly tried to hit the face of another inmate who saw the beatings. The officer told the inmate that he didn't see the beatings.

The Task Force learned that CERT officers did not submit any incident report or any notice to their superiors at DOC.

CERT officers, at the alleged direction of Seman and senior officers, failed to record the activities surrounding the assault and the restraining chair.

The Task Force said CERT officers, however, recanted their first statements and then confirmed that the slappings had occurred.

The Task Force also discovered that the surveillance camera recordings for June 17 to 23 were missing.

CORRECTIONS

From Page 1

with obstruction of justice.

Police served the arrest warrants on Seman yesterday and on Quitano on Friday.

A \$5,000 cash bail was imposed on each defendant. The two were not taken to court because they immediately posted bail after their arrests.

The arrests stemmed from a White Collar Crimes/Public Corruption Task Force investigation that was based on a request by Corrections Capt. Georgia Cabrera.

According to the investigation conducted by Juan Santos of the Task Force, Seman and Quitano, both assigned to the Correction Emergency Response Team, had assaulted inmate

Robert Jake Palacios on June 17, 2009. The attack allegedly happened inside the Isolation Unit.

Investigation showed that Palacios was assigned to a cell for violent offenders and offenders serving lengthy jail sentences. He had asked several times to be transferred to another cell to avoid problems with three violent offenders. His requests were denied.

On June 17 Palacios made an obscene gesture at Quitano. Seman and Quitano, along with two other Corrections officers, led Palacios to an open area within the prison and talked to him.

Palacios refused to go back to his cell, prompting Seman to cite him for disobeying an officer's order.

Palacios was then handcuffed and escorted to the Isolation Unit. While

his hands were cuffed from behind, Seman and Palacios allegedly shouted at Palacios and slapped him many times in the face.

Another inmate and some CERT officers allegedly saw the defendants beating up Palacios, who was still in handcuffs.

Seman then asked for a restraining chair, where Palacios was made to sit. He was then locked inside the Isolation Unit, still on the restraining chair. After less than two hours, two other CERT officers came and removed the chair.

Palacios later complained to two other officers of pain in his ear. He asked to be taken to the hospital.

The following day, June 18, Quitano and another CERT officer escorted Palacios to the Commonwealth Health Center for medical attention.

have. She was very loving, caring, and open to everybody," he said.

Mentor

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, who issued a statement yesterday upon learning of Inos' death, said he considered her as one of his mentors.

"Dr. Rita Hocog Inos was my running mate when I first established the Covenant Party and ran for governor in 2001. Before she ran with me, she was the first female candidate for the office of Lt. Governor with the late Gov. Lorenzo I. Guerrero," Fitial said.

"I relied on her for advice on public policy issues concerning education. This is why I chose her to be my running mate in the 2001 CNMI general elections. Our plan was for me to focus on economic development, while she handled important education issues. This is also why I nominated her to the Northern Marianas College's Board of Regents, where she served until she

passed away [yesterday]," he said, adding that Inos was committed to the cause of education in the Commonwealth and throughout the Pacific region.

Fitial described Inos as a dedicated public servant.

"I am thankful for Rita's friendship. She was a very compassionate woman who cared very deeply for our community. She will be remembered and missed. I extend my condolences to Rita's family. Rita was family to me," the governor added.

Wise judgment

Inos was appointed to the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents in February 2006 and served as its chairperson from June 2006 to July last year.

Her successor to the post, Charles V. Cepeda, yesterday expressed sadness over the passing of Inos.

"During the college's most difficult and challenging times, some of the members of the Board of Regents looked

to Dr. Inos for her reassuring leadership and her wise judgment," said Cepeda, adding that Inos was a visionary who worked tirelessly to position the college for its unprecedented growth since her appointment to the board.

NMC President Dr. Carmen Fernandez described the late educator as a great mentor.

"Dr. Inos was a great boss, mentor, and friend. I love her and will miss her dearly," she told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that Inos dedicated her career to advancing educational opportunities for the people of the CNMI.

"Her passion for students was unparalleled. Her leadership roles at the college, at the Public School System, and in other organizations have created a legacy that will have a long-lasting impact on the educational landscape of the Northern Marianas," said Fernandez, adding that NMC owes many of its accomplishments to Inos' leadership and guidance.

Fernandez asked members of the NMC community yesterday to keep Inos in their thoughts and prayers. During a faculty assembly, she also asked faculty members for a moment of silence in honor of Inos.

Accomplishments

Inos was the PSS Commissioner from June 1998 to December 2005. She began her education career on the islands in 1972 as a bilingual teacher at Rota and Saipan schools.

Inos obtained her doctorate from the University of Southern California and her master's degree in school administration and supervision from the San Jose State University in California.

She obtained master's course work in educational anthropology from the California State University and a bachelor's degree in Liberal Arts from the University of Hawaii-Manoa.

She completed high school at the Arlington High School in Texas.

DR. RITA

From Page 1

to the hospital.

On Saturday, her body will be transferred from CHC to the Mount Carmel Cathedral at 7:30am for public viewing. A Mass and rosary are also slated that day.

After the Mass, her remains will be flown to Rota where a Mass and interment are slated on Aug. 18 at 1:30pm.

Inos is survived by husband Cristobal Songao Inos, children Denise Lorraine and Ana Blossom, and two siblings who are based in Hawaii. Hocog said the two siblings will arrive tomorrow night.

Hocog said his sister, though not bedridden, truly suffered from her illness. Inos had been flying off-island for medical treatment.

"I have nothing to compare with her...she's one unique sister that we

Tinian municipality cuts work hours by 8

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Tinian Municipality has cut the work schedule of its employees by eight hours from 80 to 72 biweekly.

According to executive officer Bill Cing, this was done so the Tinian Mayor's Office will be able to keep all its employees, at least until the end of the current fiscal year.

Cing said this was also a result of the 15 percent across-the-board cut in the budgets of government agencies.

Tinian Mayor Jose P. San Nicolas chose to reduce his employees' work hours—and their salaries—rather than lay off personnel, he said.

"Our mayor opted to cut their hours rather than lay off people because we believe that it's better to receive a little than none at all," he added.

Cing said the reduced hours will last until Sept. 30 and would likely continue in the next fiscal year if the economy does not improve.

Because of the lack of available businesses on island, the

Torres: Zoning system must work with landowners and developers

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n.rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Stanley Torres said what is needed is a zoning system that works with landowners and developers of Saipan, instead of one that hampers their every move. He said zoning needs to be user-friendly and must address the needs of the community.

"It does neither right now. So get off your duff and get working on a usable system. ... Try spending less time writing to the newspapers and more about making your agency perform as intended," Torres said in a statement titled "How long will it last?" that was presented before yesterday's House session.

Torres said the Saipan Zoning Law of 2008 is not working out as planned. He proposes a six-month delay in the implementation of the law while it is redrafted and a workable system is put in place.

"This is not the end of the world; this is just reasonable planning," he noted.

Torres said the former zoning administrator, Steve Tilley, left Saipan "after contriving a bogged down and unworkable system."

"If the new zoning administrator does not get it right, why, he too will be on a plane back to the U.S. mainland while we remain here, stuck with a plan that hampers instead of helps," said Torres referring to Victor Barrett, who replaced Tilley starting June 22.

Barrett had said that suspending the law could lead to

municipality has served as people's only source of employment for many years.

Cing described the available budget for the municipality as "just enough to sustain the municipality operation" until the end of fiscal year 2009.

He said Tinian generates only about \$2.8 million in local revenue every year, which include the remittance of its sole business operator, Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino, to help pay for the municipal employees' wages.

Tinian's proposed appropriation for the next fiscal year is at \$7.8 million.

Besides the reduced work hours of employees, Cing said Tinian also monitors its utility consumption, including the shutting down of street lamps and nonfunctional offices.

Cing said they are also mindful of the municipality's expenditures and have cut back on official travel, including that of the island's mayor.

San Nicolas, who has been criticized in the past for his

frequent off-island trips, indicated in early interviews that majority of these travels are personal expenses, although these events aim to "make money" for Tinian.

Cing cited a number of the mayor's projects that are ongoing on Tinian: Abalone, road improvements, recreational projects, and educational programs.

'10 new practical nurses'

Emmanuel College recently conferred a plaque of appreciation to San Nicolas for supporting its 11-month nursing program on Saipan.

Saipan Tribune learned that of the 33 licensed practical nursing graduates of the college, 10 were assisted by the Tinian government through its scholarship program.

Cing, who received the recognition on the mayor's behalf, said all these licensed practical nurses will be assigned to the Tinian Health Center.

Drunk man allegedly points shotgun at teen in As Matuis

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A drunk man allegedly damaged property and pointed a shotgun at a teenager outside a house along Matansa Drive in As Matuis Saturday night.

Glen K. Kalen was arrested for illegal possession of a firearm, illegal possession of a loaded and unsecured firearm,

disturbing the peace, and assault

with a dangerous weapon.

Kalen, 19, was taken to the Superior Court yesterday for a bail hearing. Associate Judge David Wiseman imposed a \$10,000 cash bail for his temporary liberty and set the preliminary hearing for Aug. 17 at 9am.

Detective Regino M. Celis Jr. stated in his report that an 18-year-old male was inside his home with another person when

they heard a man shouting for them outside the house Saturday at 11:33pm.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Jason Tarkong said Kalen broke the driver's side window of the teenager's Toyota pickup truck and damaged the metal frame pedestal of an IT&E phone box.

Kalen then left the area and returned armed with a .410 caliber shotgun.

The teenager tried to calm Kalen down but the defendant pointed the gun at him and threatened to shoot him. The victim held on to the front end of the barrel and pointed it away from him.

When police officers arrived, Kalen ran off and hid behind a lemon tree.

Police arrested him. The gun and its bullets were later found in the area.

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Life in Motion

WIC starts issuing vouchers for new food packages

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Women, Infants and Children program of the Department of Public Health has started issuing vouchers for its new food packages.

WIC program clinic manager Dianne C. Esplin said the new food package would be redeemed starting Oct. 1.

However, the WIC program office is closed this week due to the ongoing seminar on breast-

feeding at the Tanapag Head Start from Aug. 10-14.

What is exciting about this new food guide, Esplin said, is that WIC families will be getting fresh fruits and vegetables and whole grains in their monthly food package.

Fresh fruits and vegetables will also be redeemable at authorized Farmers Market vendors in addition to the regular WIC stores.

The new and improved WIC foods are divided into five categories:

- 1) for moms-to-be;
- 2) for mom and baby (formula feeding);
- 3) for mom and bay (breastfeeding);
- 4) for mom and baby (some breastfeeding/some formula); and
- 5) for children

For moms-to-be, the new WIC food supply will help the

mother and the baby meet today's nutrition needs as recommended by healthcare providers during pregnancy.

The new WIC foods are lower in fat and higher in fiber, improve the variety of foods available and promote healthy weight gain for the mom and the baby.

The mom will receive 36

ounces of iron-fortified cereal and a pound of whole wheat bread or a pound of brown rice. She will also get an \$8 cash value voucher for vegetables and fruits, three 12-ounce can frozen vitamin C-rich juices, 22 quart skim milk, a pound of dried beans and peas, 18 ounces peanut butter, and a dozen eggs.

For children, the new WIC foods are also lower in fat and higher in fiber, offer a variety to help with picky eating habits and help maintain a healthy weight for the child.

The package includes 36-

ounce boxes of iron-fortified cereal, two pounds of whole wheat bread or other whole grain options.

It also includes 16 quarts of skim milk (whole milk for 1-2 years old) and more allowed substitutions. The protein includes a pound of dried beans and peas or 18 ounces peanut butter and a dozen eggs.

Aug. 21 9am - 12pm A-5

Math Placement Test Schedule

Aug. 11 10am - 12pm A-9
5pm - 7pm D-1

Aug. 13 10am - 12pm A-9
Ongoing students must clear any outstanding balances at the Finance Office, the Library or the Curriculum Resource Center before they can register for classes. To find out if any balances exist, students can visit the Office of Admissions and Records.

For additional information or inquiries, contact the Office of Admissions and Records at 234-5498 ext. 1528, or log on to www.nmcnet.edu. (NMC)

NMC registration begins next week

Those interested in furthering their education and advancing their professional careers can register for the upcoming Fall 2009 semester at the Northern Marianas College. Fall registration will begin on Monday, Aug. 17, 2009.

The college offers several degree and certificate programs, including a bachelor of science degree in elementary education, associate degrees in business, business administration (emphasis on accounting, business management, or computer applications), liberal arts, nursing, natural resource management, criminal justice, and hospitality management.

Moreover, it offers short-term certificate programs in different vocational, academic, and professional areas.

New students are required to take an English and Math placement test before they register. After taking the placement tests,

students can obtain the required slip from the English department and meet with their academic advisors. NMC academic advisors will help new students fill in registration forms and create class schedules. Students can then finish the registration process in Room D-1.

Application for admissions will still be accepted until the last day of Registration on Aug. 22 provided that both placement tests have been taken. Note the following Fall 2009 dates below:

■ Aug. 17-21: Fall Regular Registration (9am - 6pm)

■ Aug. 21: Student Orientation in D-1 (10am - 12pm)

■ Aug. 22: Late Registration (9am - 12pm)

■ Aug. 24: First day of fall classes

■ Aug. 24: "Welcome Fair" from 10am to 2pm

■ Aug. 24: Student Orientation in D-1 (5:30pm)

■ Aug. 24-28: Add/Drop Week (100 percent refund)

English Placement Test Schedule

Aug. 13 5pm - 8pm D-1
Aug. 14 9am - 12pm D-1



FLAG EXPERT

Michel R. Lupant, far right, visits Herbert Del Rosario, far left, and Tony Goobaad, second from left, of the CNMI Archives and Pacific Collection Offices at the Northern Marianas College to learn about the various flags of the islands in Micronesia. Lupant is president of the International Federation of Vexillological Associations, an organization that pursues vexillology, or the scholarly study of flags, and is currently traveling through Micronesia to gather research. Del Rosario and Goobaad run the two offices at the college dedicated to preserving historical, political and cultural records, texts, artifacts, and other materials of value to the people in the CNMI and the Pacific, especially Micronesia.

Philippine real estate developer eyeing Guam, Saipan expansion

Executives from one of the leading estate developer from the Philippines will be visiting Guam and Saipan for a month-long expansion initiative.

Dominic Lagrosa, business development manager of Globe Asiatique Realty Holdings Corp., said the company is expanding its sales and marketing operations.

The company's visits to Guam and Saipan will include a series of road shows from Aug. 23 to Sept. 25 that includes training future agents and establishing a network with interested future business partners as well as putting up

booths during the training.

They will be also setting up a buyer's night activity on both islands.

Lagrosa will be accompanied by two of the company's executives, Abram Cuyugan (sales director for Asia Pacific/Middle East) and Divine Lee (VP for Sales/Marketing).

This will be the first time the company is visiting Guam and Saipan.

The company wants to partner with interested individuals and business entities that will form the pool of the company's

sales force on the islands.

The visit to Guam will be from Aug. 23 to Sept. 8 and on Saipan from Sept. 9 to Sept. 25.

For more information about the company, their website is <http://www.galifestyle.com/>.

The company was established in 1994 with its main office at the Philippine Stock Exchange Center on Ortigas Road, Pasig City.

It started its first venture into residential housing projects by developing one of its properties in San Mateo, Rizal, named Sta. Barbara Villas I. (Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)

Temporary storage sought for cartons of books and clothing

The Helping-Hands Books & Donation Center on Tinian is looking for a temporary shelter where it can store about 70-80 cartons until it finds another building for the center.

The center was permanently closed on Aug. 4 due to the lack of support from the local government of Tinian.

maia, an American poet and essayist who runs the center, is now looking for another location to put up the center where local leaders are willing to support it.

She said the temporary storage space would have to be dry and clean, so if the boxes have to wait for a few months to find a new home, the contents would not be ruined by

weather or bugs.

maia said an empty store would be ideal.

She also needs a truck and volunteers to move the cartons, which should be ready by the end of the week.

Those who are willing to help may come to the center, just behind the Tinian Mayor's Office, any time or they may call 433-9993.

Last week, people offered their help upon learning that the center had been closed down and are now doing what they can to find another building.

maia said there has been no luck so far, but she is not giving up on Tinian unless some other place offers to fund the center. (*Saipan Tribune*)

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT/ NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING KALABERA CAVE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT MARPI, SAIPAN

Notice is hereby given that the Department of Public Works in conjunction with CRM, DPL, DEQ, HPO and FWL are making available for public review and comment a Draft Environmental Assessment Report (DEAR) prepared for the proposed Kalabera Cave Development Project proposed by the government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Marianas Visitors Authority is the project sponsor. The project is federally funded by the United States Department of the Interior (DOI), Office of Insular Affairs for Capital Improvement Projects under Section 118 of Public Law 104-134, and is pursuant to Article XIV Section 3 of the NMI Constitution including the NMI Historic Preservation Act of 1982, Public Law 3-39.

The project is designed to meet or exceed the requirements of local and federal laws, and construction includes car and bus parking, pathway, resting house, house of prayer, pictograph Interpretive house, and cave interior lighting.

An Environmental Assessment Report (EAR), which is a written document that discusses the potential environmental effects of the project and feasible mitigation measures to reduce those effects to less-than-significant levels, is proposed for certification by the Commonwealth pursuant to the NEPA and NHPA Guidelines. Possible environmental impacts of this project include impacts upon or related to aesthetics, transportation, air quality, noise, cultural and historical resources, biological resources, geology and soils, hydrology and water quality, hazardous materials, and public utilities and service systems. Responsible and trustee agencies and those who have already expressed an interest in this matter will automatically receive a copy of the Draft EAR; for other interested persons, copies of the Draft EAR may be requested from the Department of Public Works at the address and telephone number given below or from Herman B. Cabrera & Associates at the address and telephone number given below. The 30-day review period for the Draft EAR is from August 7th - September 8th, 2009. During this period, comments may be submitted to the Department of Public Works at the address given below, in either writing or by e-mail, or comments may be made during the public hearing, the date and location of which is described below.

Said public hearing where all interested members of the public may attend and be heard will be held on Friday, the 28th day of August 2009, beginning at 6:30 p.m., at the Gregorio Camacho Elementary School Cafeteria in San Roque, Saipan. This hearing will be for acceptance of public comments on the Draft EAR by DPW staff or staff from Herman B. Cabrera & Associates. No decision regarding the project or certification of the EAR will be made at this meeting. A final decision on this project will be made at a future date at a meeting of the Department of Public Works, who would also consider certification of the EAR at that time. All persons interested in the matter may appear and be heard at this meeting.

Copies of the Draft EAR in spiral bound form may be obtained in person from:

Department of Public Works
Technical Service Division,
Joeten Building, 2nd Floor,
San Jose Village
Saipan, MP 96950.
Tel: 670-234-9828/38

and

Herman B. Cabrera & Associates
P.O. Box 501421
Garapan Village
Saipan, MP 96950
Attn: Herman B. Cabrera, AIA President
E-Mail: hbcabrera@gmail.com
Tel: 670-234-1778
A copy will be charged at the nominal rate of \$0.20 per sheet.

A copy of the document may also be viewed at:
Joeten Kiyu Public Library
Susupe
Saipan, MP 96950

Comments on the Draft EAR should be submitted to the Department of Public Works or to Herman B. Cabrera & Associates at the e-mail address or his address above. Comments on the Draft EAR must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 28, 2009.

Rota Eco-Camp fosters environmental stewardship

ROTA—Rota's conservation areas acted as classrooms this summer for more than 50 local students participating in the 4th Rota Eco-Camp.

The elementary and middle school students learned from wildlife biologists, forestry officials, cultural experts, and more as they experienced first-hand the importance and value of conservation.

Together they engaged in activities such as hiking to the top of Wedding Cake Mountain and learning about the endangered fruit bat and planting hundreds of seedlings at the Talakahaya Watershed Re-vegetation site.

The eco-camp, which took place July 28 to July 31, covered topics including marine conservation, watershed protection, endangered species and habitat preservation. Throughout the camp, students learned how they can contribute to conservation efforts.

"I could tell other people not to burn the plants. I can plant everywhere. I can stop touching corals and I can stop throwing trash on the side of the road," sixth-grade student Fidel Manglona said in response to what actions he can take to help protect the areas he visited.

Organizers surveyed the students for knowledge gained from the experience. The responses will be evaluated in the coming weeks. The findings will provide valuable input on how to improve the educational component of the program.

For the past three years, the camp has provided students on the island with experiential learning aimed at increasing



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
After listening to a presentation by James Manglona, Department of Land and Natural Resources, participants plant grass seedlings at Talakhaya Watershed.

their capacity to understand human impacts on the environment, and the importance of ensuring sustainability.

"It is a great way to educate our children about the environment—both the marine life and the wildlife surrounding our islands in the CNMI," said Joey Quitugua, who helped sponsor the camp. "As a child growing

up in a traditional lifestyle, I've come to appreciate the island of Rota as a food source to our family. We must protect our surroundings so that our children can benefit from it for many years to come."

The environmental education camp was coordinated by the Division of Environmental Quality with support from dozens of volunteers and public and private groups on Rota and Saipan. Partnering government agencies included the Rota Mayor's Office, and Rota branches of the CNMI Public School System, Department of



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
2009 Rota Eco-camp participants and leaders received certificates for their participation in the conservation education camp. They posed together for a photo after the closing ceremony.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Students departed from West Harbor with Rubin Rota Scuba Center and snorkeled at Pinatang. Following the swim, they learned about marine protected areas and marine monitoring from Carlos Ketebengang, Division of Environmental Quality.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Guided by Julia Boland, Division of Fish and Wildlife on Rota, students searched for birds at Wedding Cake Mountain conservation area.

Land and Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Northern Marianas College, Department of Public Safety, Department of Public Health and Rota Health Center.

DEQ provided funding for the programs through a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Coral Reef Initiative. The camp was also made possible through generous contributions from the Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Rota Scuba Center Rubin and Joey Quitugua.

"The Tan Siu Lin Foundation is proud to support all causes that educate, strengthen, and nurture our environment and community," said Ed Arriola Jr., Corporate Affairs officer of Tan Holdings Corp., the corporate parent of the Tan Siu Lin Foundation. (PR)



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
P.O. BOX 501370 CK, SAIPAN, MP 96950
HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPEN COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT

It is the policy of the Board of Education, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, that the Public School System's Human Resources shall be applied and administered according to the principles of equal employment opportunity as defined by the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Public Law 6 - 10, regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, handicap or place of origin. Applicants for this position must be a U.S. Citizen or be eligible and authorized to work in the U.S., including the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Announcement No: PSS-2009-056 **Application & Employment Type:** Non-Certified

Position Title: **SCHOOL PRINCIPAL I-III**

Pay Level/Step: **UNGRADED** **Per Annum Salary:** **\$50,000.00-\$60,000.00**

Opening Date: **August 3, 2009** **Closing Date:** **August 21, 2009**

Location: **PSS – SAIPAN / TINIAN / ROTA**

Benefits: Salary Commensurate with qualifications and experience, plus excellent benefits (including Life Insurance, Retirement Benefits, and Paid Leave/Holidays)

Minimum Requirements:

Principal I

- (a) Master's degree with a major in educational administration or related field.
- (b) Must possess a valid administration certification; and
- (c) At least six (6) years of experience; three (3) years of full time appropriate teaching experience and the other three (3) years of experience must be in school administration or a related leadership management field.
- Must take and pass PRAXIS I & the appropriate PRAXIS II exam starting July 31, 2007.

Principal II

- (a) Master's degree with a major in educational administration or related field.
- (b) Must possess a valid administration certification; and
- (c) At least seven (7) years of service; three (3) years of full time appropriate teaching experience and the other four (4) years of experience must be in school administration or a related leadership management field.
- Must take and pass PRAXIS I & the appropriate PRAXIS II exam starting July 31, 2007.

Principal III

- (a) Master's degree with a major in educational administration or related field.
- (b) Must possess a valid administration certification; and
- (c) At least nine (9) years of experience; three (3) years of full time appropriate teaching experience and six (6) years of work experience in school administration or a related leadership field.
- Must take and pass PRAXIS I & the appropriate PRAXIS II exam starting July 31, 2007.

***Detailed job description with qualification requirements can be obtained at PSS Human Resources Office at the 3rd Retirement Building, Capitol Hill, or download it online www.pss.cnmi.mp/humanresources**

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY OBTAIN A DETAILED JOB DESCRIPTION WITH QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION FORMS AT THE PSS HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE AT THE 3RD FLOOR RETIREMENT BUILDING, CAPITOL HILL. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST BE ATTACHED TO COMPLETE APPLICATION FORMS: (1) COPY OF DIPLOMA/DEGREE, (2) TRANSCRIPTS, (3) POLICE CLEARANCE (FROM PLACE OF RESIDENCE FOR PAST SIX MONTHS), (4) VERIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT LETTER, (5) RESUME, AND (6) TEACHING CERTIFICATE (IF APPLICABLE). COMPLETED APPLICATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE OR MAILED TO: CNMI PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, ATTN: HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE, RETIREMENT BUILDING; THIRD FLOOR, P.O. BOX 501370 CK, SAIPAN, MP 96950, and TEL. #. (670) 237-3051, FAX # (670) 664-3707. ALSO VISIT <http://www.pss.cnmi.mp/humanresources> ON THE WORLDWIDE WEB.

Courts train seven WIA participants

This summer, a total of 500 young people are working or have worked at 100 private businesses and government offices in the Northern Marianas under the Workforce Investment Agency's youth employment program.

Among this group are seven who were employed at the CNMI's Superior and Supreme Courts.

Under the tutelage of Wayne Archibald and Michael Villacrusis, system administrator and computer specialist for the courts' information systems, five of the local high school students—Regina Gatamngin, Florence L. Fitial, Shiela B. Jimenez, Desiree A. Reusora and Mariah I. Ada—performed various tasks for the court that IT personnel would encounter on a daily basis, from data entry to computer repair and maintenance. As a result their value as



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The WIA program participants assigned to the Supreme Court are, from left to right, top row, Monica B. Agulto, Donalyn J. Rosal, Regina Gatamngin, and Florence L. Fitial. Bottom row, Shiela B. Jimenez, Desiree A. Reusora and Mariah I. Ada.

future employees rises in an increasingly high-tech world.

The other two young people with the program—Monica B. Agulto and Donalyn J. Rosal—are working at the Law Revision Commission, involved in the scanning, sorting, and important work of legal docu-

ment preservation, in addition to Web editing and associated clerical duties. Janet R. Labios and Albert Hicking provide their daily guidance.

The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 provides for a nationwide, federally funded, locally administered job skills and

work programs.

Edith DeLeon Guerrero, executive director for the Workforce Investment Agency, said her organization is private sector-focused and centered on the Power of "E3"—Education, Employment and Economic Development. (PR-WIA)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Casting call for new FOA play

Friends of the Arts is holding auditions for their first show of the 2009-2010 season, Arsenic and Old Lace. The cast includes parts for 14 adults—11 men and 3 women. The show is scheduled to be performed on Oct. 16, 17, 23, 24, and 25.

The play is a comedy that involves a theater-hating drama critic who finds himself having to deal with his crazy, homicidal family—two spinster aunts who have taken to poisoning lonely old men, an uncle that believes he is Teddy Roosevelt, and a murderous brother—and the local police.

Auditions will be held this Thursday and Friday, Aug. 13 and 14, from 6pm to 8pm and again on Saturday, Aug. 15, from 2pm to 4pm in the Napu

Room at PIC. For more information and to keep up on all Friends of the Arts news and events, join the "Friends of the Arts, Saipan" page on Facebook or contact us by email at FOA.Saipan@gmail.com. (PR)

MHS Class of '70 sets meeting

The Marianas High School Class Reunion of 1970 is having its monthly meeting on Thursday, August 13, 2009 at 6:30 pm at McDonald's in Chalan Laulau.

All MHS Class of 1970 and those who have attended Hopwood Jr. Sr. High, but graduated abroad are also invited to attend. For more information, please contact John Camacho at 234-3182/4. (PR)

Meeting of the

Autism Society of the CNMI

The Autism Society of the CNMI will be holding its monthly meeting on Saturday, August 22, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMPASI Conference Room. Information regarding the group and future meetings will be available at this meeting. All families and friends of individuals with autism and autism related spectrum disorders are invited to attend.

For additional information, call John at 234-8803/4 or Larrisa at 322-3761 or send an email to as_cnmi@yahoo.com. (PR)

John Gonzales Live schedule

The public is invited to watch and learn about newsmaking issues on John Gonzales Live on KSPN Channel 2 from 7pm

to 8pm. Replays are Sunday and Monday the week after on KSPN Ch. 2 from 7-8 p.m. You can participate by text (285-6382), calling (287-4230), or e-mail (johngonzales@pticom.com).

■ Aug. 12 To Keep or Suspend Zoning: The Saipan Zoning Law In Depth (Guests: Zoning Board chair Henry S. Hofschneider, Zoning Board member Herminia M. Fusco, and Zoning Administrator Victor Barrett

■ Aug. 26 Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment, Mental Health, & Tobacco Cessation Programs (Guests: Reyna Malone Squires, CGC Prevention Division; Crispin M. Sablan, Clinical Treatment Division; Rebecca C. Robles, Tobacco Cessation & Quitline.

COMMONWEALTH ELECTION COMMISSION

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
P.O. Box 500470 Saipan, MP 96950-0470
Tel: (670) 664-VOTE / Fax: (670) 664-8689
<http://www.votecnmi.gov.mp/>

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910 (a) and (b), the Commonwealth Election Commission, hereby give notice that the Commonwealth Election Commission will meet at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 12, 2009, at the Governor's Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan. Additional information concerning this meeting is available at the Office of the Election Commission, 1313 Anatahan Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

AGENDA

- I. Preliminary Matters
 - a. Roll call
 - b. Adoption of agenda
- II. Executive Director's Report
- III. Old Business
 - a. Ballot Layout
- IV. New Business
 - a. Commission Resolution 09-004 - Candidate for 2009 General Election (3rd Partial Listing)
- V. Miscellaneous
- VI. Adjournment

/s/ FRANCES M. SABLAM
Chairwoman

(The Commission, pursuant to 1 CMC §9912, may vote to meet in executive session to consult legal counsel and discuss personnel matters.)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Aug. 11, 1999

'Move class suit in California to NMI'

The garment manufacturers and retailers named in the \$1 billion class action suit filed in California asked the Central District Court Monday to transfer the case to the federal district court of the Northern Marianas, saying this venue would be more convenient for both parties. The defendants argued that the plaintiffs, witnesses, documents, evidence, and all conditions relating to the case are all on Saipan. By contrast, none of the plaintiffs and witnesses are in California, the defendants stated in the motion to transfer venue. "Little, if any, evidence is in California," they added.

\$1.25 M settlement forged

Four retailers included in the \$1 billion class action suit filed in California announced Monday their decision to sign a \$1.25 million settlement agreement with human rights groups and the law firm that represents garment workers. Nordstrom, J. Crew, Cutter & Buck and Gymboree were the first retailers to settle the lawsuit contesting alleged sweatshop conditions in the garment industry on Saipan. Under the settlement, U.S. retailers have agreed in their future contracts to require independent monitoring of their Saipan contractors.

Aug. 11, 2000

Delinquent borrowers face CDA foreclosure

Amid the increase in delinquency rate, the Commonwealth Development Authority will foreclose the properties of those who have continuously ignored to settle their loans with the government lending agency. The CDA board has agreed to push through with the foreclosure proceedings after it has given up hopes to recover money from borrowers who have failed to meet their financial obligations, said Executive Director Marylou S. Ada. Ms. Ada said the cash flow of the agency has been depleting at a fast rate thus, the need to collect payment to allow other loan applicants borrow money.

DPS taps Hong Kong Interpol

The Department of Public Safety has sought the help of the Hong Kong Interpol to provide them with information regarding the slain Hong Kong Chinese national and his possible killers. The police agency has written to the Hong Kong Interpol recently to help them assist in establishing leads, according to sources from the department. No arrest has been made so far by the authorities. This was revealed after the Federal Bureau of Investigation has stepped into the murder case to help the local police in apprehending the killers of Mr. Tse, who was shot in a restaurant in Chalan Piao.

Aug. 11 2002

NMI gets more food stamp funding

The United States and CNMI governments have signed the Memorandum of Understanding that would authorize the release of more than \$7 million in aid to low-income families in the Commonwealth under the Nutrition Assistance Program. Gov. Juan N. Babauta and Cultural Affairs Secretary Juan L. Babauta signed the MOU on behalf of the CNMI. The agreement involves an estimated \$7.1 million grant that will cover the full request made by NAP for financial year 2003. The grant will come from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Services.

Aug. 11 2003

US territories in spotlight

It's a go for the Department of the Interior's Investment Development Conference for the Territories, which will highlight investment opportunities in the U.S. territories and enable territory leaders to meet with the nation's top investors for one-on-one meetings. The conference, a brainchild of Interior Secretary Gale Norton, is set for September 8 at the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington D.C. and will highlight the excellent business opportunities that investors can avail of in the CNMI, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and American Samoa.

CNMI, Guam sign 'white paper'

Gov. Juan N. Babauta and Guam Gov. Felix Camacho both signed a "white paper" Friday that affirmed the Marianas region's support for the U.S. military presence in the Pacific and outlined the role that both the CNMI and Guam could play should the military increase its presence in the region. Babauta left the CNMI for Guam Friday morning to attend the signing ceremony, at the invitation of Camacho.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB09-OHS-072**

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: AUGUST 27, 2009 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"LEASE OF A WAREHOUSE SPACE TO BE USE AS A CBRNE FACILITY ON SAIPAN FOR THE OFFICE OF THE HOMELAND SECURITY"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

LOCAL BIDDERS PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE TO LOCAL BIDDERS BECAUSE THE FEDERAL GRANTOR AGENCY, THE U.S. OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY, HAS CERTIFIED THAT SUCH PREFERENCE IS IN CONFLICT WITH THE AGENCY'S GRANT CONDITIONS.

THE LESSOR MUST COMPLY WITH CNMI PUBLIC LAW 15-23, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 8652 (A) - (D).

/s/ PATRICK J. TENORIO
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAM
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB09-DPH/WIC-129 (A-D)**

BID SUBMISSION: AUGUST 13, 2009 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.
BID OPENING: AUGUST 13, 2009 • TIME: 10:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF FIVE (5) LAPTOP COMPUTERS, ONE (1) LCD TV 37", TWO (2) WACOM DIGITAL EDITING TABLETS, AND MISC. NETWORK AND MIS NEED FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH- W.I.C. PROGRAM"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAM
Director, P&S

Island Snapshots



RE-APPOINTMENT

Senators pose with Commonwealth Election Commission chair Frances M. Sablan, fifth from left, after confirming her re-appointment to the commission during Friday's session. Also in photo is Election Commission executive director Robert Guerrero, fourth from right.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



THEY'RE HERE

U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources chairman Rep. Nick J. Rahall II (D-WV), right, and Rep. Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan (D-MP), left, get off the military plane shortly after 5pm Saturday at the Saipan International Airport, and were escorted to Hyatt Regency Saipan in Garapan. Also arriving on a rainy Saturday afternoon were Rep. Eni Faleomavaega (D-AS), Rep. Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU), Rep. Henry Brown (R-SC), and Rep. Donna M. Christensen (D-USVI). While here, the congressional delegation met with the business sector, local government officials, federal officials and community members on issues dealing with the federal takeover of CNMI immigration by Nov. 28.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

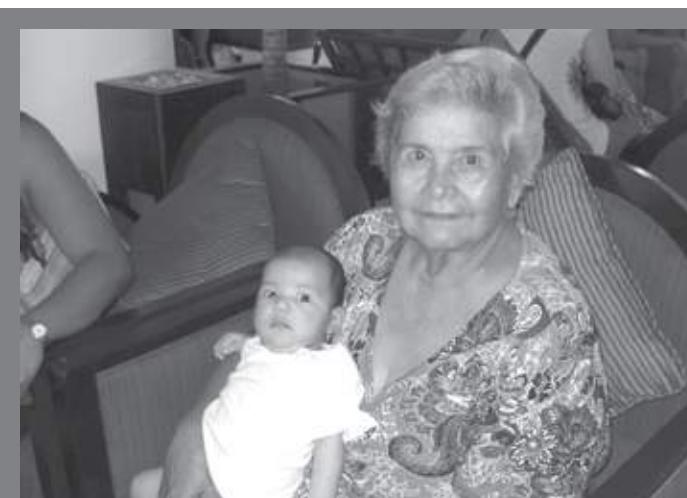
Birthday greetings going out to Francine Santos, who is celebrating her birthday today, Aug. 11! Hope you have a great and fabulous day. best wishes and have a safe journey to Oregon! You will be sorely missed. Love, all your familia and friends!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday greetings to Chen-chen, who turned 2 years old on Aug. 4! May you have many more birthdays to come! Greetings come from the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to our mother, grandmother & great-grandmother Chong A. Torres, who is celebrating her 75th birthday today. You are the BEST sweet, caring and loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother in the world. We love you very much and we wish you the very best on your special day. God bless you always and with many more years to come. Greetings coming from your children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



A special birthday greeting goes out to Angela Pinaula who is celebrating her birthday today, Aug. 11, 2009. Have a great one and may you have a safe trip back to Seattle. It was good having you home. Much love from all your family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 1st birthday Wallace Luis! May you be blessed with many more birthdays! With lots of love and kisses, Dad, Mom, Tamisha Lia and the entire Sablan-Chong family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Birthday greetings go out to Kristy Springer who is celebrating her birthday today, Aug. 10. Have an awesome day! Coming out from all of your friends, family, and most especially your Rockin MHS students.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BELATED HAPPY BIRTHDAY

A belated birthday shout out to my sister/best friend/kumaire Melissa "Cha" Camacho last Sunday, Aug 9. Many more birthday blessings to come! Much love, Ur gNr dlCruz famz, AZ.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

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Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Justice Sotomayor

At 3:15 P.M. Thursday, Aug. 6, the nation witnessed the confirmation of its first Hispanic justice to the Supreme Court. By a vote of 68 to 31, Sonia Maria Sotomayor, daughter of the Bronx and Puerto Rico, became the 111th person and only the third woman to join the highest court in the land.

The vote brought with it several other firsts: the first time in some four decades of service on Capitol Hill that Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., was unable to cast a vote on a Supreme Court nomination; the first time in their three decades of judging nominees that Republican Sens. Orrin Hatch, Utah, and Charles Grassley, Iowa, felt compelled to vote no; the first time in its 138-year history that the National Rifle Association will factor the vote on a Supreme Court nominee in its annual report card on lawmakers and gun rights.

The moment will be remembered above all as a triumph for Justice Sotomayor, who refused to let financially humble beginnings define or restrict her in any way. She comes to the high court with as well-rounded a resume as any justice of the past century: Princeton undergrad, Yale Law, prosecutor, corporate litigator, trial court judge and appeals court jurist. The American Bar Association bestowed on her a unanimous well-qualified rating.

Yet 31 Republicans could not bring themselves to vote for her. Some criticized her vote against white firefighters in a reverse-discrimination case. Others were concerned about her decision against two New York state property owners whose land was seized by a township and handed over to a private developer intent on building a shopping center. Others worried that she was not sympathetic enough to the rights of gun owners.

These senators were within their rights to dislike the outcomes, but they were wrong to overlook the fact that in each of these cases Judge Sotomayor either followed settled law or appropriately exercised judgment that was well within the mainstream. And still there is the lingering question, fairly asked of everyone poised to ascend those marble steps: What kind of justice will she be now that the burdens of precedent are no longer absolute? The answer will be revealed only in time. We would hope that any justice would come to the bench free of personal prejudice or agenda; we would also hope that she would follow the law faithfully even while understanding that she will often be called on to exercise judgment to ensure that cramped interpretations don't defy common sense and crowd out justice.

Judge Sotomayor has done this for the past 17 years. We trust that Justice Sotomayor will continue to follow this humble and honorable path.

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The news Americans need

You don't have to care about media companies or reporters to care about the state of the news, because if it's in trouble—and it surely is—this country is in trouble. That's why, while speaking recently at the Aspen Institute, I called upon President Obama to form a commission to address the perilous state of America's news media.

Some might scoff at the notion that a president and a country occupied by two wars and a recession should add the woes of the news media to an already crowded plate. But the way the news is delivered, and the quality of the information the American public receives about what's going on here and abroad, has and will continue to have a profound effect on these very issues and on the overall quality of government by, for and of the people.

I am not calling for any sort of government bailout for media companies. Nor am I encouraging any form of government control over them. I want the president to convene a nonpartisan, blue-ribbon commission to assess the state of the news as an institution and an industry and to make recommendations for improving and stabilizing both.

Why bring the president into it? Because this is the only way I could think of to generate the sort of attention this subject deserves. Academia and think tanks generate study after study, yet their findings don't reach the people who need to be reached.

We need a real and broad public discussion of the role news is meant to play in our democratic system of government and a better public understanding of the American news infrastructure's fragile condition. We need to know how things got this way and what we need to change.

An intense period of corporate consolidation over the past 25 years, aided and abetted by deregulation by the Federal Communications Commission, has reduced to a mere handful the sources from which most Americans get their news. While independent reporting has been winnowed and homogenized, the news organizations responsible for this reporting have largely fallen under corporate mandates to increase profits quarterly—which has meant a reduction in news-gathering personnel, the shuttering of overseas bureaus and the nearly complete subordination of a public trust to the profit motive.

Moreover, corporate values of risk aversion have increasingly filtered down to newsrooms, supplanting news values. The big conglomerates that own most of America's news media may have, at any given moment, multiple regulatory, procurement and legislative matters before various arms of the federal government; their interests, therefore, can often run contrary to the interests of the citizens whom journalism, at its best, is meant to serve. There is little incentive to report without fear or favoritism on the same government one is trying to lobby. Increasingly, the

By DAN RATHER

Special to The Washington Post



The writer, who was a CBS reporter for 44 years, is global correspondent and managing editor of HDNet's "Dan Rather Reports."

news we get—and, significantly, the news we don't get—reflects this conflict of interests.

The news infrastructure, weakened from within by this corrosive dynamic, is at risk of toppling altogether because of a separate, though not unrelated development: the coast-to-coast collapse of the newspaper industry, which has lost the key revenue streams of classified and local advertising to the Internet.

For radio, television and, yes, the Internet, newspapers have been and continue to be the foundation on which "hard" news rests. They provide the reporters who are our primary and often our only independent sources in places as close as city zoning hearings and as far away as Indonesia. Anyone who has worked in other media knows that, if newspapers are taken out of the equation, dwindling news resources will be stretched to the breaking point.

You will not turn on your television and hear an anchor admit this. What you will see, instead, is more opinion, commentary and marketing masquerading as news. You will get more in-studio shouting matches between partisans, moderated by openly partisan talking heads.

And so shows that can be produced on the cheap, with little to no real reporting, fan impotent citizen anger at a government whose workings, absent hard-hitting reporting, seem ever-more opaque—and at a world that, absent consistent, contextualized coverage, seems to defy comprehension.

We need news that breeds understanding, not contempt; news that fosters a healthy skepticism of the workings of power rather than a paralyzing cynicism. We need the basic information that a self-governing people requires. The old news model is crumbling, while the Internet, for all its immense promise, is not yet ready to rise in its place—and won't be until it can provide the nuts-and-bolts reporting that most people so take for granted that it escapes their notice.

This is a crisis that, with no exaggeration, threatens our democratic republic at its core. But you won't hear about it on your evening news, unless the message can be delivered in a way that corporate media have little choice but to report—such as, say, the findings of a presidential commission.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Mampos Abarambao I Tanu

By John S. DelRosario Jr.
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Buente pot hihot dilubiu i tanu mina machum dididi sensian abundansia gi hinashogu. Lau magahet na esta ayu na chataan dondesta. Mientras mauleg para i taya hanum gi tipu siha, disbintaha para i lancheru yan peskado. Fuera de man-nañgu i tinanum, kahulu i chubasku gi hiyoñg rubentasion. Sapet para todo i dos grupu ni pumega offisium niha gi mauleg na klima.

Abarambau mampus i dibati giya Washington pot priniponen timilaika gi sisteman hinemu. Si Presidente Obama ha chochoneg timilaika 'nai iempre humalom i gobietnon federat para u dispone todo pot asuntun hinemu. Los ultimos, esta ti malañgu yan mediku na i malañgu yan offisiat federat. De dios! Mauleg na intension lau dañoso gi direchon kada sudadanu. Mauleg yangin man-mediku siha, lau puru ha' para man-mañoneg papet yan mahlug gesu.

■■■

Gaige guine un' komite ginien i sanpapa na guma Kongress Estaa-

dos Unidos de America. I propositu pot para u ekuñgog sentimentun iya Marianas hafa pinadesiña ginien i nuebu na areglon lai federat pot immigrasion yan hutnaleru. Mientras tantus, guaha lokue un' leblu matugi pot bintahan hutnaleros ginien iya Meksiko (Mexico) yangin ha baba korasoña iya Amerika pot kontribusion niha este na taotague tat komu fangualuan gi enteru Estados Unidos De Amerika.

Yangin ta rikonose lokue hafa tutuñoña iya Amerika, siempre klaru anog na i finatun taotao siha ginien Uropa mas ke tres sientos años malofan tutuhon simiyan amanu nai gaigegue pagu. Dumaña ginien Iñglatera yan Uropa na taotague yan Indian 'nai matuthon chechu kooperasion gi entalu niha ya sige ma-akantha appreubacion asuntun areglu siha 'nai guaha benefisiu para todos. Estague na ipsu 'nai maudai iya Amerika gi tutuñoña.

Un' asuntu ni ti siña hu tulaikan ñaihon gi papa kontratan i inakonfotman i Covenant i direchon natibu gumubietnan maisague. I lai federat pot immigrasion yan hutnaleru ha huchum este na direchu sin kabales na inestudia hafa sustansiaña i matulaika sin kosientimentun iya Marianas. Un' sustansia este na probision gi papa i Covenant ya chatchogue i federat 'nai ha funas sin antau

na inestudia. Baihu defendi este na probision esta'i uttimu suspirus. I famaguonta siempre malie' na tailaye este na chochu kontra Chamorro yan Karolinas.

■■■

I hagas umatug na asuntu pot haye siña gai tanu guine esta matucha guine gi alacha. Era, man-manae' tanu publiku (homestead) 'nos kuantus famaguon ginien hiyuñg ni man-maadapta nu i taotaota. Mientras este siha na famaguon man-maadapta gi menos ke disi-ochu años, parehu direchon niha yan natibu man-gai tanu. Hu komprende na guaha giya hita man-inestotba nu este na asuntu. Lau 'nai direchon niha, maila ta onra sa' gaige ennao gi Konstitusion iya Marianas. Hita umaprueba ennao na lai konstitusion.

■■■

Ha faisenu un' amigu hafa na tatnai malaguyu para offisinan publiku. Hu oppe na mampus didog i hegsu para hulu gi Deni. Debi bai' fedus Hegsu Tatlahi (Terlaje), San Vicente, Papagu estake para bai' fattu gi Deni. Sumen dañkulu dinidahu na siñayu malagu tai-guihe na chinagu. Hombre megai besis ni matompuyu gi pinikathu. Polu ha' dialu amigu!

Morrison asks: Vincent Bugliosi

By PATT MORRISON
(C) 2009, LOS ANGELES TIMES

Vincent Bugliosi has moved on, but the world hasn't. Forty years after the impossibly grisly Tate-LaBianca murders, he is still "the Manson prosecutor."

His book about the murders masterminded by Charles Manson, *Helter Skelter*, written with coauthor Curt Gentry, hasn't been out of print since it appeared in 1974. It's blurbed as the best-selling true-crime book of all time, at what Bugliosi figures is about 7 million copies. His 2007 JFK book, *Reclaiming History*, got its start in a 1986 mock trial on television, in which Bugliosi prosecuted Lee Harvey Oswald, using actual assassination witnesses, and proved that Oswald alone killed the president. It has sold considerably fewer copies than *Helter Skelter*, but, as he says, "If you want to make money, you don't put out a book that weighs 7 1/2 pounds and costs \$57 and has over 10,000 citations and a million and a half words."

Bugliosi still writes voluminously—and without a computer—but he has had to put down his pen for the moment because journalists like me are swarming around, asking for his insights, 40 years on, about the 1969 slayings, now known the world over as the Manson murders, and their chief instigator, the hideously and evidently perpetually fascinating Charles Manson.

Question: Aren't you tired of people asking about Manson?

A: I've actually had a copilot come out of the cockpit on a trip from L.A. to New York and ask me about Charles Manson. I was at a book convention, in a cab—on one side of me was Arthur Schlesinger, on the other side was William Manchester, real heavyweights. All they were doing was asking me about Charles Manson. The only thing that enables me not to be bored is the people talking about it—they're so interested. The durability of this case is just incredible.

Q: Why? There have been more prolific murderers and gorier killings since then.

A: Many factors. The single most important is that the murders were probably the most bizarre in American crime, and people are fascinated by things that are strange and bizarre. It's not the brutality—they were extremely brutal murders, but like you say, there have been more brutal murders. Not the prominence of the victims. Another reason—the very name "Manson" has become a metaphor for evil, and evil has its allure.

Q: So he has become the Hitler of murderers, by which all other murderers are measured?

A: You said it—I can't say that. Just one (example) among many: Mike Tyson's applying for renewing his boxing license before the boxing commission in Nevada. He says, "Look, I'm a bad guy, but I'm not Charles Manson." His name is used in that context. Now (O.J.) Simpson—you don't hear (that) about the Simpson case. It was kind of a garden-variety case. The Manson case just never ends.

Q: What do you make of the enduring cottage industry of Manson shirts, music, posters?

A: He's got this image, almost a glamorous outlaw type, an anti-establishment figure, like (John) Dillinger or Jesse James, but (kids) really don't know who he is. They don't know how evil he is. I think if they really knew who Manson was, they would not be wearing those shirts.

Q: In 1972, the Supreme Court overturned the death penalty, including those in the Manson case. Are you sorry he and the others weren't executed?

A: Well, that would have been the proper sentence. The execution of a condemned man is a terrible thing, but murder is an even more terrible thing. They deserved to die, these people, and



Bugliosi

I asked for the death penalty and I would do so again. I don't know if "sorry" is a good word—I'm disappointed, of course, particularly with respect to Manson.

Q: Yet you also supported Manson family member Susan Atkins' parole request not long ago, and got a lot of grief for it.

A: The visceral response would be, "Well, she showed no mercy so she gets no mercy." But there are several things which militate against that easy conclusion. She's already paid substantially for her crime, close to 40 years behind bars. She has terminal cancer. The mercy she was asking for is so minuscule. She's about to die. It's not like we're going to see her down at Disneyland.

Q: If you were writing your own Wikipedia entry, what would you put first?

A: I guess it would be (Manson). It's a shorthand way of defining me, no matter what else I do. I can no more separate myself than I can jump away from my own shadow, and it tends to dominate the other things I've done.

Q: What are you proudest of?

A: Certainly my magnum opus, *Reclaiming History*. It's the most important murder case in American history. I put the best of what I know as a prosecutor into that book. It was just moonshine, these conspiracies. All these allegations made no sense whatsoever, so I decided to set the record straight. Oswald killed Kennedy. He acted alone. Because of these conspiracy theorists who split hairs and proceeded to split the split hairs, this case has been transformed into the most complex murder case in world history. But, at its core, it's a simple case.

Q: The Betrayal of America, attacking the 5-4 Supreme Court decision in the disputed 2000 presidential election—not at first blush a case for a criminal prosecutor.

A: I'm not a political activist. But whenever something is so egregious, I jump in. Even many Republican scholars (said), "The court should be ashamed of itself; we've lost respect for the court." And I kept saying, "That's all? You lost respect?" These five (justices) are among the biggest criminals in American history. How dare these people have the audacity to do what they did? I think I made my case pretty well that these people deliberately tried to steal the election.

Q: And now your latest book, *The Prosecution of George W. Bush for Murder*, published in May, makes a murder case against Bush for waging war unnecessarily and shows how he could be prosecuted for it.

A: Bush (told) unsuspecting Americans the exact opposite of what his own federal intelligence agencies told him. What could be more criminal than the Bush administration keeping the all-important conclusion from Congress and the American people, with the lives of millions in the balance?

Every day, I think of those people in their graves now—no one is fighting for them. You can see that I'm upset. I don't like to see anyone get away with murder. O.J. Simpson got away with two, and I wrote the book *Outrage*. If I can get that angry over one or two murders, you can imagine the way I feel about Bush.

Q: Some people must have said, "Bugliosi's gone off the deep end on this one."

A: (California Attorney General) Jerry Brown called me: "I understand you have a book out about Bush, about impeachment," and I said, "No, Jerry, it's about murder."

My first challenge was to see if a president taking the nation to war on a lie fell within the conventional principles of criminal law, and I've come up with very solid evidence that it does. There are many sophisticated issues, but here's the main issue. I've established jurisdiction, federal and local. If a prosecutor could prove that Bush took this nation to war under false pretenses, then these

killings of American soldiers in Iraq would become unlawful and therefore murder.

Q: I get the feeling you wish reporters were coming to your door to talk about your Bush book instead of Manson.

A: Oh, absolutely. I would much prefer to talk about this, but people don't want to.

Q: You have a theory about why the book didn't get much publicity.

A: I had a very difficult time getting this book published, and I've never had trouble getting a book published. I couldn't get on any networks, no cable. Everyone has been terrified to talk about this. My only master, my only mistress, is the facts. If a Democratic president had done this, I would have written the same identical book, so it has nothing to do with politics. I'm 95 percent sure the left in this country is terrified of the right. The right has no fear of the left—the left is terrified of the right.

Q: What do you think of televising trials?

A: We should not televise trials. There's only one purpose for a criminal trial. It's to determine whether or not the defendant committed the crime. Anything that interferes or has the potential of interfering with that should automatically be prohibited. The idea of education is nonsense. Televising an automobile-collision case or breach-of-contract case and see how many people watch. It's all about entertainment.

Morrison is a Los Angeles Times columnist and host of a daily public-affairs show on Los Angeles public radio. Morrison's e-mail address is patt.morrison@latimes.com.

Letters to the Editor

Apology

Dear CNMI residents: Hafa Adai and greetings to you all. My name is Jayna Taitano, a U.S. citizen resident in the CNMI. I wrote this letter to ask you for forgiveness for my mistake of fraud marriage with Bashar Mohammad Abdul on the date of March 13, 2009. I realize and understand that my mistake has brought shame to myself and my family. My family doesn't describe this shame but I.

I don't really mean to do this but I was not being smart. My son's father does not have a job, so I thought doing this would support my son, but it wasn't a good idea. My mistake caused me to experience difficulties and hardship in my life with my family. I went to court for the offense of fraud marriage that I had committed. I am also currently serving time on probation for the offense that I have done to you.

I'm ordered by the court to pay a fine for my offense and I will be doing community work service to change and improve my life, which is the least I can do. I have learned from this mistake and will be a better mother from now on. I will be regretting this for my life. Do I understand my wrongdoing? Yes, I do. I feel ashamed for what my mistake has brought to my family's name. I wish and hope you understand why I am writing this letter.

Before ending this letter, once again I humbly ask for your forgiveness and I apologize for the mistake I have done. To be sure this won't happen again, I love my son and family. I thank you all for your time.

Jayna Taitano
San Antonio, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲ 87° ▾ 78°

▲ 87° ▾ 78°

▲ 87° ▾ 78°

▲ 87° ▾ 78°

▲ 87° ▾ 78°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲ 86 ▾ 77
Palau	Showers	▲ 86 ▾ 77
Yap	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▾ 78
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 87 ▾ 76
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 86 ▾ 75
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 84 ▾ 78
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▾ 79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Dreary	▲ 59 ▾ 46
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 100 ▾ 73
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲ 91 ▾ 84
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 84 ▾ 75
London	Cloudy	▲ 77 ▾ 61
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲ 84 ▾ 64
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▾ 79
Melbourne	Rain	▲ 60 ▾ 54
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 91 ▾ 79
New York	Cloudy	▲ 93 ▾ 76
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 88 ▾ 78
Paris	Cloudy	▲ 73 ▾ 61
Pusan	Rain	▲ 82 ▾ 75
Rome	Sunny	▲ 86 ▾ 66
Salem	Partly Sunny	▲ 82 ▾ 57
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲ 80 ▾ 58
Seoul	Rain	▲ 84 ▾ 75
Tokyo	Rain	▲ 87 ▾ 74
Washington, DC	Hot	▲ 98 ▾ 77

Tides

Sunrise/Sunset

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:02 AM	6:43 PM	Today	9:52 PM	9:55 AM
Wednesday	6:02 AM	6:42 PM	Wednesday	10:34 PM	10:47 AM
Thursday	6:02 AM	6:42 PM	Thursday	11:20 PM	11:42 AM
Friday	6:02 AM	6:41 PM	Friday		12:41 AM
Saturday	6:02 AM	6:41 PM	Saturday	12:13 AM	1:43 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

■ ISLAND SNAPSHTOS

Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

■ BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

■ BUSINESS

Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

■ SAMUT SARI

Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

■ TRAVELOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

■ CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 21, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

C09597 11:50pm 12:25pm 1, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597 12:50pm 1:20pm 1, 7

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:20am	5:10am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7 via ROP
C09601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
C09603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

C0941	5:30am	8:05am	Daily
NW99	6:05am	8:40am	Daily
NW78	9:00am	2:05pm	Daily via NGO
NW75	3:50pm	6:25pm	Daily
C0943	5:25pm	8:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSSAKA (KIX)

OZ119 4:00am 6:40am 1, 3, 4, 6

SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)

NW78 9:00am 11:40am Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608 3:20am 6:50am 1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1, 3, 4, 6
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844 2:50am 5:40am 2, 6

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

CZ3008 3:30am 6:40am 2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/703	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:30pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:45am+1	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
OZ704/605	11:50pm	2:30pm+1	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN

OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline ETD ETA Frequency

Guam-Rota

FRE 113 11:40am 11:50am Daily

FRE 115 1:00pm 1:10pm Daily

FRE 117 2:30pm 2:40pm Daily

FRE 119 4:00pm 4:10pm Daily

Business

Krugman says world avoided second Great Depression

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Aggressive stimulus spending by governments helped the world avoid a second Great Depression but full economic recovery will take two years or more, Nobel Prize-winning economist Paul Krugman said Monday.

Krugman said the worst of the global crisis was over with economic and exports growth showing signs of stabilization. Still, recovery was likely to be “disappointing” as government spending wasn’t sustainable in the long-run and unemployment rate still lagging behind, he told a two-day world capital markets conference here.

There isn’t likely to be any “Phoenix-like” recovery such as in the 1997-98 Asian financial crisis, where the economies expanded dramatically, led by a sharp rebound in exports, he said.

“We have managed to avoid a second Great Depression ... but full recovery is at least two years and probably more,” Krugman said.

Asia is likely to see a faster rebound, than the U.S. and Europe, partly driven by the recovery in manufacturing exports, he said.



Nobel Prize-winning economist Paul Krugman speaks during a press conference at the World Capital Markets Symposium in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Monday, Aug. 10, 2009.

Fed likely to keep key interest rate at record low

WASHINGTON (AP)—With the economy strengthening but still fragile, Federal Reserve policymakers are expected to hold a key lending rate at a record low this week and will weigh whether to extend some programs that were created to ease the financial crisis.

Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues also are likely to signal that while the recession is winding down, the pain isn’t over.

Though the unemployment

rate dipped to 9.4 percent in July—its first drop in 15 months—economists predict it will start climbing again.

Many, including people in the Obama administration and at the Fed, say it could still top 10 percent this year.

For months, consumers have pulled back on spending and borrowing. To try to stimulate economic activity, Fed policymakers are all but certain to keep the target range for its bank lending rate between zero and

0.25 percent at the end of their two-day meeting Wednesday.

That means commercial banks’ prime lending rate, used to peg rates on home equity loans, certain credit cards and other consumer loans, will stay around 3.25 percent, the lowest rate in decades.

Fed policymakers also will probably pledge anew to keep rates there for “an extended period,” which economists interpret to mean through the rest of the year and into part of 2010.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Oil hovers near \$71 as investors eye US consumers

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices hovered near \$71 a barrel Monday in Asia as investors looked to signs later this week of the U.S. consumers’ health. Benchmark crude for September delivery was up 17 cents to \$71.10 a barrel by midday in Singapore in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. On Friday, the contract fell \$1.01 to settle at \$70.93. Crude prices have fluttered near \$71 a barrel and \$72 for about a week as investors try to gauge how strong a U.S. economic recovery will be this year. The government said Friday that the unemployment rate fell to 9.4 percent in June, but gasoline demand has been weak this summer.

Survey: Gas prices nationwide jump 16 cents

CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP)—The U.S. price of gasoline jumped nearly 16 cents a gallon during the past two weeks to \$2.64. That’s according to the national Lundberg Survey of fuel prices released Sunday. Analyst Trilby Lundberg says it

appears the rate of increase is slowing. The latest average price of regular gasoline is \$1.20 below the price at the same time last year. The average price for a gallon of mid-grade was \$2.77. Premium was at \$2.88. Charleston, S.C., had the lowest price, \$2.38 for a gallon for regular. Honolulu was the highest at \$3.07.

Consumer protections lost in health care debate

WASHINGTON (AP)—It’s one issue in the health care debate that nearly everyone—even the insurance lobby—seems to agree on: Better consumer protections are needed to end the nightmare of not being able to get covered for a treatable, if costly, illness. Yet such practical considerations are being overlooked in a debate that’s become a passionate argument about the government’s reach and role in medical matters. Experts say the bills before Congress include significant consumer protections that would end denial or cancellation of coverage for medical reasons, from high cholesterol to cancer.

In the clearest sign yet that the recession may be ending, the U.S. Labor Department last Friday showed the jobless rate in the world’s largest economy dipped for the first time in 15 months while workers’ hours and pay edged upward.

It said a net total of 247,000 jobs were lost last month, the fewest in a year and a drastic improvement from the 443,000 that vanished in June. Still, the job market remains shaky. A quarter-million lost jobs are a far cry from the employment growth needed to put the nation-

al economy on solid footing.

President Barack Obama has urged Americans to be patient and give time for his \$787 billion stimulus package of tax cuts and increased government spending to take hold. Most of the money will flow in 2010.

Krugman said there was still room for the U.S. government to increase spending to boost growth, despite concerns over its swollen budget deficit.

Krugman, who teaches at Princeton University, won the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences last year for his analysis

of how economies of scale can affect international trade patterns. He also writes columns for The New York Times.

He said there was a need to restructure the global financial system and impose tighter regulations to avoid a repeat of the economic crisis, but expressed concern that the momentum for reforms appeared to be easing.

“We do not have the political will to do that just yet ... I suspect clever people can still make a lot of money from the financial system in the next few years,” he warned.

EBay, GM set to start car-selling trial Tuesday

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—General Motors and eBay Inc. are expected to announce Monday that hundreds of the auto maker’s California dealers will let consumers haggle over the prices of new cars and trucks through the online marketplace, as part of a previously disclosed trial.

About 225 of California’s 250 GM dealers are set to take part in the program, which will begin on Tuesday. They will be selling Buick, Chevrolet, GMC and Pontiac vehicles on cobranded Web sites through eBay’s online auto marketplace, eBay Motors, until Sept. 8. The cars will also be searchable through eBay Motors and eBay’s main site.

The trial is part of Detroit-based GM’s turnaround plan, making more official a practice some of its dealers had already participated in on their own. It expands an existing partnership

covering GM certified used vehicles sold through eBay.

It also marks a shift for San Jose, Calif.-based eBay, since most of the vehicles sold on eBay Motors—a site that sells various types of vehicles and auto parts—have traditionally been used.

Starting Tuesday, eBay visitors will be able to visit Web pages like gm.ebay.com and chevy.ebay.com, where they can browse new 2008 and 2009 vehicles, ask dealers questions and figure out financing.

The cobranded sites will also include a Web tool currently on eBay Motors that helps shoppers determine if they’re qualified to trade in their old car for money toward a new one under the government’s just-refilled “cash-for-clunkers” stimulus program.

Car buyers will be able to choose between the two standard options currently offered

on eBay Motors: Negotiating a price with a dealer through the site or purchasing right then at a fixed price. Cars will be picked up at the dealerships.

EBay Motors Vice President Rob Chesney said the companies decided to run the trial in California because there are many tech-savvy consumers there. eBay users who live outside California can contact dealers to see if they’re willing to sell and ship vehicles to them, he said.

The test comes a month after GM made an unusually quick exit from bankruptcy protection with ambitions of becoming profitable and building cars people are eager to buy. Once the world’s largest and most powerful automaker, new GM is now leaner, cleansed of massive debt and burdensome contracts that would have sunk it without additional federal loans.

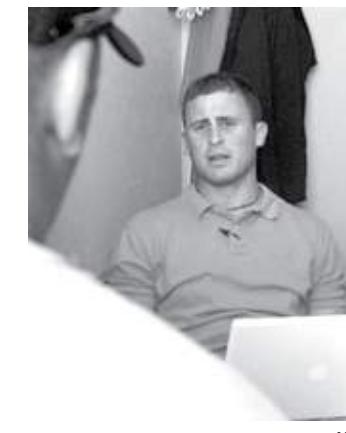
Small is beautiful (and successful) for newspapers

Newspapers are hurting all over the United States, but the pain is less severe at small publications like The Blackshear Times in Georgia.

The weekly newspaper fills an information vacuum in a county of 17,000 people who live about 75 miles from the closest metropolitan market, in Jacksonville, Fla. That has made it easier for The Times to hold on to its 3,500 subscribers and keep its revenue stable in a recession that’s ravaging much of the newspaper industry.

“CNN is not coming to my town to cover the news and there aren’t a whole lot of bloggers here either,” said Robert M. Williams Jr., The Times’ editor and publisher. “Community newspapers are still a great investment because we provide something you can’t get anywhere else.”

The scarcity of other media in small- and medium-sized cities has helped shield hundreds of newspapers from the upheaval



In this Aug. 3, 2009 photo, sportswriter Matt Montgomery interviews high school softball coach Bryan Howard for The Purcell Register in nearby Washington, Okla.

that’s causing dailies in big cities to shrink in size and scope as their print circulations and advertising sales decline.

Less competition means the print editions and Web sites of smaller newspapers remain the focal points for finding out what’s happening in their cov-

erage areas.

In contrast, large newspapers carry more national news, as well as local, and have many competitors, including Web sites and television and radio stations. They report much of the news the day before printed newspapers reach homes and newsstands. Large newspapers’ Web sites also provide the news for free a day ahead of print editions.

Perhaps even more important, newspapers in smaller markets still haven’t lost a big chunk of their revenue to Craigslist and other online classified advertising alternatives that have become the bane of large newspapers.

Print ads for everything from jobs to jalopies were a gold mine for newspapers until Craigslist began expanding an online service for free classified ads in 1999. Today, Craigslist blankets most major metropolitan markets while publishing about 40 million classified ads each month. (AP)

Nation

ACROSS THE NATION
**Liberian official
meets with young
rape victim**

PHOENIX (AP)—Liberia's deputy ambassador to the U.S. said Sunday that he tried to console an 8-year-old rape victim in Phoenix with hugs and a teddy bear in a case that has gripped Liberians worldwide. Deputy Ambassador Edwin Sele said the girl, a Liberian refugee, cried heavily during their meeting on Saturday and that she needs to be reunited with her family to get the best care possible. "I talked with her, and I took her a teddy bear," he said. "She was very distressed. She's really traumatized. ... She cried so bitterly that I almost cried."

**Wait for sex
and marriage?
Evangelicals
conflicted**

When Margie and Stephen Zumbrun were battling the urge to have premarital sex, a pastor counseled them to control themselves. The couple signed a purity covenant. Then, when the two got engaged and Margie went wedding dress shopping, a salesperson called her "the bride who looks like she's 12." Nonchurch friends said that, at 22, she was rushing things. The agonizing message to a young Christian couple in love: Sex can wait, but so can marriage. "It's unreasonable to say, 'Don't do anything ... and wait until you have degrees and you're in your 30s to get married,'" said Margie Zumbrun, who did wait for sex, and married Stephen fresh out of Purdue University. "I think that's just inviting people to have sex and feel like they're bad people for doing it." (AP)

**Felicia weakens
to tropical storm
near Hawaii**

HONOLULU (AP)—Hawaii braced for Tropical Storm Felicia on Sunday, taking no chances even though the storm weakened rapidly as it slipped toward the islands. Felicia was downgraded to a tropical storm with maximum sustained winds of 50 mph with higher gusts. It's expected to weaken even more before hitting Hawaii late Monday or early Tuesday, when it is expected to be either a tropical storm or depression. The Central Pacific Hurricane Center said the storm's center was about 445 miles east-northeast of Hilo and 610 miles east of Honolulu as of 5 p.m. HST.

7 bodies pulled from Hudson after midair collision

HOBOKEN, N.J. (AP)—Divers pulled a helicopter and four more bodies out of the murky Hudson River on Sunday in their search for victims, wreckage and explanations from a midair collision of a sightseeing helicopter and a small plane that killed nine people.

The dead from Saturday's crash include three fathers and their three teenage sons. The private plane carried a family from Pennsylvania, and the helicopter held five Italian tourists celebrating a couple's 25th wedding anniversary.

The plane approached the helicopter, which had just taken off for a 12-minute tour, from behind and clipped it with a wing, witnesses said. Both aircraft split apart and fell into the river.

Searchers fought swift currents, dealt with visibility as low as one foot, and dodged debris dumped along the river bottom as they brought four more bodies on to boats. One was found in the fuselage of the helicopter, New Jersey State Police Sgt. Stephen Jones said. Two bodies remained missing.

A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers crane lifted the twisted wreckage of the helicopter from 30 feet of water. Nearby, a sonar



The wreckage of a helicopter is lifted by crane from the Hudson River and placed on a boat as seen from Hoboken, N.J., Sunday, Aug. 9, 2009. AP

scanner found the small plane wreckage, New York City police said. More plane wreckage was found farther out in the river under about 50 feet of water.

The collision happened in the same stretch of the Hudson where a US Airways jet landed

safely seven months ago. It was the worst air disaster in New York City since a commercial jet crash in Queens killed 265 people in November 2001.

The searches went on as a steady stream of tour boats floated down the Hudson. Re-

strictions put in place after the crash kept sightseeing helicopter tours grounded Sunday.

Investigators from the National Transportation Safety Board were reviewing flight data from the Teterboro Airport, where the plane took off a little

Obama presses for new tone in US relations with Mexico

GUADALAJARA, Mexico (AP)—President Barack Obama pressed for a new tone in the United States' relationship with Mexico but found no immediate progress Sunday on the divisions between him and Mexican President Felipe Calderon over the pace of U.S. drug-fighting aid and a ban on Mexican trucks north of the border.

Obama kicked off his second trip to Mexico as president with a friendly 45-minute meeting with Calderon that touched on the vast trade relationship between their two countries, their cooperation on swine flu and the violent Mexican gangs dominating the drug trade on both sides of the border. Their talks came before the start of a lightning-quick three-way summit between the United States, Mexico and Canada.

Often called the "Three Amigos" summit, the meeting of Obama, Calderon and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper began over dinner at a cultural institution in this town near the mountains. The summit's formal talks, the fifth for the three countries, were taking place Monday, followed by a joint appearance before reporters at midday.

During the separate sit-down between Obama and Calderon, the Mexican leader raised his concerns about the speed of implementation of the United States' three-year, \$1.4 billion drug-fighting package known as the Merida Initiative. One

\$100 million installment is being delayed over rising concerns among some in Congress about the Mexican army's abuses.

The U.S. law requires Congress to withhold some funding unless the State Department reports Mexico is not violating human rights during its anti-cartel crackdown, which started in 2006.

Obama told Calderon that human rights is a major priority for him, but also assured him that the State Department is working to prepare a report that recognizes all Mexico's efforts to prevent abuses, said a senior administration official, who briefed reporters on condition of anonymity in order to more freely describe private meetings.

Drug violence has killed more than 11,000 people since Mexico launched its crackdown. Mexican cities are essentially under siege, and the killings are spilling over the border into the United States and as far as Canada.

Calderon also quizzed Obama on his earlier promise to restore a canceled pilot program that had allowed Mexican truckers to travel into the United States, the official said.

The North American Free Trade Agreement required the United States to grant Mexican trucks full access to its highways by January 2000, but domestic opposition stalled that plan until a 2007 pilot program allowed some trucks.

Immune system cancer found in young 9/11 officers

NEW YORK (AP)—Researchers say a small number of young law enforcement officers who participated in the World Trade Center rescue and cleanup operation have developed an immune system cancer.

The numbers are tiny, and experts don't know whether there is any link between the illnesses and toxins released during the disaster.

But doctors who coordinated the study, published Monday in the Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, said people who worked at the site should continue to have their health monitored.

"What we are trying to get out there is: Be alert," said Dr. Jacqueline M. Moline, director of the World Trade Center Medical Monitoring and Treatment Pro-

gram at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

The researchers looked at 28,252 emergency responders who spent time amid ground zero dust and found eight cases of multiple myeloma.

Those findings were no surprise. Multiple myeloma is the second most common hematological cancer in the U.S. after non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Normally, researchers would expect to find about seven cases in a group as large as the one examined in the study.

However, four of the people who fell ill were under age 45, and multiple myeloma is thought to be more rare among people of that age. Under normal circumstances, researchers would have expected to find only one case of the disease in

About 250 inmates injured in riot at Calif. prison

LOS ANGELES (AP)—More than three dozen inmates were released from hospitals Sunday after being involved in a racially motivated riot that badly damaged a Southern California prison and forced the lockdown of nine others.

The riot that erupted Saturday night sent 55 prisoners to the hospital and injured more than 250 inmates in all, officials said. Thirty-eight inmates were treated and were expected to return to the California Institution for Men in Chino, east of Los Angeles, by late Sunday, said Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation spokesman George Kostyrko.

Most of the injuries were considered minor to moderate, including stab wounds and slashes. One inmate suffered a serious head injury, Kostyrko said. However, none of the injuries were considered life-threatening.

No staff members were injured in the disturbance, the largest since December 2006.

As many as 80 officers responded to the riot, which involved some 1,300 inmates in seven dormitory-style barracks. A fire that ignited during the chaos caused significant damage to one of the buildings, prison spokesman Lt. Mark Hargrove said. Prison officials couldn't

before noon on Saturday.

The plane was not required to have a flight plan and did not file one, said NTSB Chairman Debbie Hersman.

The plane was flying at about 1,100 feet at the time of the crash, she said. Below that altitude, planes in that part of the Hudson River corridor are to navigate visually. Above that, they need clearance from air traffic controllers.

The control tower at Teterboro handed off responsibility for the plane to the tower in Newark about a minute before the crash and told the pilot to contact Newark controllers, Hersman said. But the Newark officials never heard from the pilot.

Additionally, investigators were asking witnesses, thousands of whom were out enjoying a beautiful summer day when the aircraft went down, to provide photos and video capturing the crash and its immediate aftermath.

A pilot on the ground saw the plane approaching and tried to alert the helicopter. He radioed the doomed helicopter and said, "You have a fixed-wing behind you," but there was no response from the pilot, Hersman said.

that age group.

Those four young multiple myeloma patients included one officer who was caught in the dust cloud on 9/11 and then spent months working long hours at the site. Another spent 111 days at the Staten Island landfill where the rubble was sifted. Two others had less exposure, working 12 and 14 days each in the pit and rubble pile.

The study said it is possible the monitoring program was simply more effective at finding the illness among people who wouldn't ordinarily be subjected to intense medical tracking.

Nevertheless, Moline said, "You shouldn't be seeing so many cases of myeloma in younger folks." The median age of diagnosis for that cancer in the general public is 71.

About 250 inmates injured in riot at Calif. prison

say how the fire started.

Authorities believe the riot was prompted by tensions between black and Hispanic prisoners.

"It appears we had some southern Hispanic gang members targeting African Americans," Kostyrko said.

Officers used pepper spray, wielded batons and shot foam projectiles to remove inmates who had barricaded themselves inside the medium-security facility during the four-hour uprising. Police officers and firefighters also were called to help subdue the inmates. Eleven hours later, prison officials had cleared out the facility of disruptive inmates.

Asia

1 million evacuated as powerful typhoon hits China

BEIJING (AP)—A powerful typhoon toppled houses, flooded villages and forced nearly 1 million people to flee to safety on China's eastern coast before weakening into a tropical storm Monday.

Named Morakot, the storm struck after triggering the worst flooding in Taiwan in 50 years, leaving hundreds missing or unaccounted for and bringing down a six-story hotel. It earlier lashed the Philippines, killing at least 22 people.

Morakot, or emerald in Thai, slammed into China's Fujian province Sunday afternoon as a typhoon carrying heavy rain and winds of 74 miles (119 kilometers) per hour, according to the China Meteorological Administration. At least one child died after a house collapsed in Zhejiang province.

By early Monday, the storm packed winds of 52 miles per hour (83 kilometers per hour) and churned at about 6 mph (10 kph), it said.

Hundreds of villages and towns were flooded and more than 2,000 houses collapsed, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

People stumbled with flashlights as the storm enveloped the town of Beibi in Fujian in darkness, Xinhua said. Strong winds uprooted trees or snapped

them apart, while farmers used buckets to catch fish swept out of fish farms by high waves.

Village officials in Zhejiang rode bicycles to hand out drinking water and instant noodles to residents stranded by deep floods, while rescuers tried to reach eight sailors on a cargo ship blown onto a reef off Fujian, Xinhua reported.

About 1 million people were evacuated from China's eastern coastal provinces.

Morakot hit Taiwan late Fri-

day and crossed the island Saturday causing the worst flooding in half a century.

Authorities used helicopters to drop food Monday at mountainous Shiaolin village in southern Kaohsiung county, which was hit by a massive landslide. Bad weather prevented the helicopters from landing, and official Yang Chiu-hsing said rescuers were prevented from approaching Shiaolin by road because bridges and roads had been damaged by floods.

Taiwan's CTI and ETTV Cable News reported more than 100 houses in the community may have been buried in the landslide, leaving some 1,000 villagers unaccounted for.

Outside of Shiaolin, Taiwan's Disaster Relief Center said Morakot killed 12 people and another 52 were missing, including 14 people whose makeshift home was swept away. Two policemen were washed away while helping to evacuate villagers in southeastern Taitung county.



In this photo released by the Xinhua news agency, a man wades through the flooded street by home-made raft in Cangnan, east China's Zhejiang province, on Monday Aug. 10, 2009. AP

US, Pakistan increasingly believe Mehsud dead

ISLAMABAD (AP)—The U.S. and Pakistan are almost certain a U.S. missile strike killed the head of Pakistan's Taliban and that his death led to a fierce power struggle among his deputies, officials said Sunday, despite claims and counterclaims as to the fate of the country's most wanted man.

Government and intelligence officials, as well as some Taliban commanders and at least one rival militant, have said Baitullah Mehsud likely died in Wednesday's drone strike on his father-in-law's house in northwestern Pakistan's rugged, lawless tribal area near the Afghan border.

President Barack Obama's national security adviser, James Jones, said the U.S. was 90 percent confident Mehsud had been killed. But three Taliban commanders—Hakimullah, Qari Hussain, who is known for training suicide bombers, and Taliban spokesman Maulvi Umar—called AP reporters Saturday insisting Mehsud was alive.

Neither side has produced any concrete evidence, and the claims were impossible to verify.

There also were conflicting reports that a major fight had

broke out between rival Taliban factions during a meeting, or shura, to select Mehsud's replacement, and that one or two of the most likely contenders—Hakimullah and Waliur Rehman—had either been killed or wounded.

The meeting was in the Waziristan region in Pakistan's tribal region, a mountainous area off-limits to journalists where the reach of the government is tenuous or nonexistent.

While it was unclear whether there had been a dispute at all—one Taliban commander, Noor Sayed, denied there had been

any disagreement—any succession battle for the top slot in Pakistan's Taliban is likely to be fierce and potentially bloody.

Mehsud's Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan is not a single, cohesive group. Rather, it is a loose alliance of tribal groups that often have disputes and power struggles between each other, so removing the man who coordinated the factions could lead to intense rivalry over who would succeed him.

It could be in the interests of top commanders to deny their leader was dead until they could agree on who would replace him.

cials to prepare polling stations, the report said.

Violence has "severely limited freedom of movement and constrained freedom of expression for candidates and supporters, hampering their ability to campaign openly through public gatherings or door-to-door visits," the joint report from the U.N. mission and the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission said.

The report said insecurity in "significant" portions of the country would affect the vote. The top U.N. official in the country, Kai Eide, said he could not define what "significant" meant because the situ-

ation could change before voting day. The Interior Ministry has said 10 out of 360 Afghan districts are controlled by militants and that one third of the country is considered to be at high risk of violence.

U.S., European and Afghan officials say they expect minor instances of fraud and violence during the election, but that they hope such incidents are kept to a low enough level that the outcome is seen as legitimate. If voters in the violent south and east are kept from the polls, it could lower the number of votes President Hamid Karzai receives, boosting the chances of his top challenger, Abdullah Abdullah.

ASIAN BRIEFS

43 people killed in landslides in northern India

LUCKNOW, India (AP)—Landslides triggered by heavy rains killed at least 43 people in three remote villages in northern India, a police official said. Twenty bodies were pulled from the debris Sunday after the landslide buried the villages in Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand state a day earlier, said S.M. Shamim, a paramilitary force commander. He said 43 people "were buried alive under the debris." Police and volunteers were digging through mud and rocks Sunday to recover the bodies of 23 others, he said.

12 killed, 10 missing as typhoon hits Japan

TOKYO (AP)—A typhoon slammed into Japan's west coast on Monday, bringing heavy rain that triggered floods and landslides and left at least 12 people dead and another 10 reported missing. Typhoon Etou killed 11 people in Hyogo prefecture, around 310 miles (500 kilometers) west of Tokyo, police official Shigekazu Kamenobu said. He could not provide details but said many were caught in raging waters. "At least one man was swept away in a river while he was in a car. His body was later found inside the vehicle," Kamenobu said.

China reports bomb threat on plane in Xinjiang

BEIJING (AP)—China's state news agency says there has been a bomb threat on a plane from Afghanistan scheduled to land in Xinjiang, the restive western region of China that was rocked by ethnic riots last month. Xinhua News Agency earlier said the incident was a hijacking. It did not identify the airline, but said the Urumqi airport has been told not to allow the plane to land. Xinhua says police and emergency vehicles have been rushed to the airport. The region saw the worst ethnic violence in China in decades last month when deadly rioting in Urumqi, Xinjiang's capital, killed 197 people and injured more than 1,700, according to official count.

Opium takes over entire Afghan families, villages

SARAB, Afghanistan (AP)

Open the door to Islam Beg's house and the thick opium smoke rushes out into the cold mountain air, like steam from a bathhouse. It's just past 8 a.m. and the family of six—including a 1-year-old baby boy—is already curled up at the lip of the opium pipe.

Beg, 65, breathes in and exhales a cloud of smoke. He passes the pipe to his wife. She passes it to their daughter. The daughter blows the opium smoke into the baby's tiny mouth. The baby's eyes roll back into his head.

Their faces are gaunt. Their hair is matted. They smell.

In dozens of mountain hamlets in this remote corner of Afghanistan, opium addiction has become so entrenched that whole families—from toddlers to old men—are addicts. The addiction moves from house to house, infecting entire communities cut off from the rest of the world by glacial streams. From just one family years ago, at least half the people of Sarab, population 1,850, are now addicts.

Afghanistan supplies nearly all the world's opium, the raw ingredient used to make heroin, and while most of the deadly crop is exported, enough is left behind to create a vicious cycle of addiction. There are at least 200,000 opium and heroin addicts in Afghanistan—50,000

more than in the much bigger, wealthier U.S., according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and a 2005 survey by the U.N. A new survey is expected to show even higher rates of addiction, a window into the human toll of Afghanistan's back-to-back wars and desperate poverty.

Unlike in the West, the close-knit nature of communities here makes addiction a family affair. Instead of passing from one rebellious teenager to another, the habit passes from mother to daughter, father to son. It's turning villages like this one into a landscape of human depredation.

Except for a few soiled mats, Beg's house is bare. He has pawned all his family's belongings to pay for drugs.

"I am ashamed of what I have become," says Beg, an unwashed turban curled on his head. "I've lost my self-respect. I've lost my values. I take the food from this child to pay for my opium," he says, pointing to his 5-year-old grandson, Maman-din. "He just stays hungry."

Beg's forefathers owned much of the land in the village, located beside a gushing stream at the end of a canyon of craggy mountains in Badakshan province, hundreds of miles (kilometers) northeast of Kabul, Afghanistan's capital.

He once had 1,200 sheep. He sold them off one by one to pay for drugs.

UN: Violence hampering Afghan vote

KABUL (AP)—Insecurity in significant portions of Afghanistan has hindered election preparations and disproportionately affected Afghan women, a report co-authored by the U.N. mission in the country said Sunday.

Militant violence has risen steadily in the past three years, and a record number of U.S. and NATO troops are now in the country to combat it. Afghans will vote for president and provincial councils in a nationwide election Aug. 20, which the Taliban has vowed to disrupt.

Insecurity has already hampered candidates' ability to run for office and for election offi-

process," it said.

Sima Samar, chairwoman of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission, said three women provincial council candidates from Kandahar could not even live there because of security threats, and the report noted that only 39 percent of Afghans who registered for the election in 2008 or 2009 are women.

The report said insecurity in "significant" portions of the country would affect the vote. The top U.N. official in the country, Kai Eide, said he could not define what "signifi-

World

Vast expanses of Arctic ice melt in summer heat

TUKTOYAKTUK, Northwest Territories (AP)—The Arctic Ocean has given up tens of thousands more square miles (square kilometers) of ice on Sunday in a relentless summer of melt, with scientists watching through satellite eyes for a possible record low polar ice cap.

From the barren Arctic shore of this village in Canada's far northwest, 1,500 miles (2,414 kilometers) north of Seattle, veteran observer Eddie Gruben has seen the summer ice retreating more each decade as the world has warmed. By this weekend the ice edge lay some 80 miles (128 kilometers) at sea.

"Forty years ago, it was 40 miles (64 kilometers) out," said Gruben, 89, patriarch of a local contracting business.

Global average temperatures rose 1 degree Fahrenheit (0.6 degree Celsius) in the past century, but Arctic temperatures rose twice as much or even faster, almost certainly in good part because of manmade greenhouse gases, researchers say.

In late July the mercury soared to almost 86 degrees Fahrenheit (30 degrees Cel-



AP

The shore line from Tuktoyaktuk, in the Northwest Territories, Canada, is shown on Saturday Aug. 8, 2009.

sium) in this settlement of 900 Inuvialuit, the name for western Arctic Eskimos.

"The water was really warm," Gruben said. "The kids were swimming in the ocean."

As of Thursday, the U.S. National Snow and Ice Data Center reported, the polar ice cap ex-

tended over 2.61 million square miles (6.75 million square kilometers) after having shrunk an average 41,000 square miles (106,000 square kilometers) a day in July — equivalent to one Indiana or three Belgiums daily.

The rate of melt was similar to that of July 2007, the year when

the ice cap dwindled to a record low minimum extent of 1.7 million square miles (4.3 million square kilometers) in September.

In its latest analysis, the Colorado-based NSIDC said Arctic atmospheric conditions this summer have been similar to those of the summer of 2007,

including a high-pressure ridge that produced clear skies and strong melt in the Beaufort Sea, the arm of the Arctic Ocean off northern Alaska and northwestern Canada.

In July, "we saw acceleration in loss of ice," the U.S. center's Walt Meier told The Associated

Press. In recent days the pace has slowed, making a record-breaking final minimum "less likely but still possible," he said.

Scientists say the makeup of the frozen polar sea has shifted significantly the past few years, as thick multiyear ice has given way as the Arctic's dominant form to thin ice that comes and goes with each winter and summer.

The past few years have "signaled a fundamental change in the character of the ice and the Arctic climate," Meier said.

Ironically, the summer melts since 2007 appear to have allowed disintegrating but still thick multiyear ice to drift this year into the relatively narrow channels of the Northwest Passage, the east-west water route through Canada's Arctic islands. Usually impassable channels had been relatively ice-free the past two summers.

"We need some warm temperatures with easterly or south-easterly winds to break up and move this ice to the north," Mark Schrader, skipper of the sailboat "Ocean Watch," e-mailed The Associated Press from the west entrance to the passage.

Chavez urges military to be prepared for conflict

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—President Hugo Chavez told his military to be prepared for a possible confrontation with Colombia, warning that Bogota's plans to increase the U.S. military presence at its bases poses a threat to Venezuela.

Chavez has issued near daily warnings that Washington could use bases in Colombia to destabilize the region since learning of negotiations to lease seven Colombian military bases to the United States.

"The threat against us is growing," Chavez said Sunday. "I call on the people and the armed forces, let's go, ready for combat!"

The former paratroop commander said Colombian soldiers were recently spotted crossing the porous 1,400-mile (2,300-kilometer) border that separates the two countries and suggested that Colombia may have been trying to provoke Venezuela's military.

"They crossed the Orinoco River in a boat and entered Venezuelan territory," Chavez said. "When our troops arrived, they'd already left."

In Bogota, Colombia's foreign ministry issued a news release denying reports that soldiers crossed into Venezuela, after a revision of troop movements by the Colombian military.

Chavez said Venezuela's foreign ministry would file a formal complaint and warned Colombia that "Venezuela's military will respond if there's an attack against Venezuela."

String of bombings kill at least 40 in Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP)—A double truck bombing tore through a Shiite minority community near the northern city of Mosul, while a series of blasts struck Baghdad Monday in a wave of predawn violence that killed at least 40 people, according to Iraqi officials.

The attacks provided a grim example of U.S. military warnings that insurgents are expected to step up efforts to derail security gains as the Americans scale back their presence.

The deadliest blast on Monday was a double truck bombing in Khazna village, just east of Mosul, as the members of the Shiite Shabak ethnic group who live there were still sleeping.

Two explosives-laden trucks exploded nearly simultaneously and less than 500 yards (meters)

apart, killing at least 23 people and wounding 128, according to police and hospital officials.

Those killed were all civilians because the trucks were parked in an alley and were not near a police station.

Nobody claimed responsibility for the attack, but it bore the hallmarks of al-Qaida in Iraq and other Sunni insurgents who remain active in Mosul and surrounding areas.

On Friday, a suicide truck bomber devastated a mosque used by another minority, Shiite Turkomen, killing 44 people north of the city that the U.S. military has dubbed al-Qaida in Iraq's last urban redoubt.

Bombs also continue to strike neighborhoods in Baghdad despite security gains.

The first bomb was hidden in

a pile of trash when it exploded about 5:50 a.m. near a group of construction workers drinking tea and looking for day jobs in the religiously mixed neighborhood of Amil, killing at least seven people and wounding 46, officials said.

About 10 minutes later a car bomb targeting construction workers elsewhere in western Baghdad, killing at least 10 people and wounding 35, according to police.

Three bombs also exploded in the mainly Sunni neighborhood of Azamiyah shortly before 7 a.m., wounding a member of a government-backed paramilitary group, an army official said.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to release the information.

WORLD BRIEFS

Iran judiciary looks to calm prison abuse outrage

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Police and judiciary officials sought on Sunday to calm public outrage in Iran over the deaths of detained protesters in prison, acknowledging abuses and calling for those responsible to be punished. A senior commander of the powerful Revolutionary Guard, which led the crackdown against the protesters, meanwhile, said that the three top opposition figures are the ones who should be put on trial, striking a harder line that suggests tensions at the highest levels of Iran's power structure. Iran's Prosecutor General Ghorban Ali Dorri Najafabadi called for those responsible for mistreating detainees to be punished, saying that the protesters weren't even meant to be taken to Kahrizak prison, which has been at the center of abuse claims.

Homeless Holocaust survivor leaves \$100,000 gift

JERUSALEM (AP)—Hebrew University has received a surprise donation of more than \$100,000 from an unexpected benefactor—a woman who survived the Nazi Holocaust and appeared to be destitute, a university official said Sunday. Upon her death two years ago, a homeless Holocaust survivor living on the streets of New York City willed the gift to the university. The Jewish woman lived out of a shopping cart in Manhattan and had no known relatives, said Yefet Ozery, Hebrew University's director of development and public relations. "She lived as a very poor woman. And when she died at the age of 92, it was discovered she had accumulated close to \$300,000," Ozery said.

Clinton presses Angola to sweeten trade ties

LUANDA, Angola (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, bringing her democracy and development tour of Africa to oil-rich Angola on Sunday, encouraged the war-ravaged country to continue reforms and pledged to boost trade ties with a major energy producer. Clinton, on the third leg of a seven-nation trip, came to the Angolan capital to reinforce America's presence in a country where it increasingly is competing for resources with China. Beijing has loaned Angola billions of dollars in recent years without pressing reform. After meeting Foreign Minister Assuncao Afonso dos Anjos, Clinton urged the government to build on successful legislative elections held in 2008—the first in 16 years—through presidential elections and dealing with the legacy of its 27-year civil war.

Honduras accepts OAS chief as 'observer'

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP)—Honduras' interim government backed off its refusal of a visit by foreign delegates aimed at resolving the country's political crisis.

The negotiators are welcome as long as Jose Miguel Insulza, head of the Organization of American States, participates only as an "observer," the Foreign Relations Ministry said in a statement Sunday.

The government of interim President Roberto Micheletti has objected to what it calls a "lack of objectivity" by Insulza—a vocal advocate of restor-

ing President Manuel Zelaya to office after he was ousted in a June 28 coup.

The ministry said the visit—originally planned for Tuesday—will now be rescheduled for a date "that will be decided in the next two days."

The statement by the Foreign Relations Ministry came just hours after the government had postponed the visit, objecting to the inclusion of Insulza in the group.

The delegation organized by the OAS also includes the foreign ministers of Argentina, Canada, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Mexico and

the Dominican Republic.

It was not the first time that diplomatic efforts to resolve the coup appear to have been delayed or drawn out by the interim government. It has dallied over a proposed compromise plan presented by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, who served as mediator in the dispute, while rejecting the main point, Zelaya's reinstatement in office.

The Washington-based OAS, a long-established hemispheric body promoting democracy, development and legal cooperation in the Americas, named the delegation on Friday.

Overdrive

2010 Buick LaCrosse CXS is an American LEXUS



The thoughtfully designed 2010 Buick LaCrosse CXS is as good as or better than the Lexus ES350 in every way.

LOS ANGELES TIMES

By DAN NEIL
(C) 2009, LOS ANGELES TIMES

Fighter pilots call it “target fixation” when you become so focused on a single adversary that you lose situational awareness and fly into something large and obvious, like the ground. Buick’s 2010 LaCrosse—a near-luxury, mid-size-to-large sedan—was built to put the cross-hairs on a single bogie, the Lexus ES350, and I’ll tell you right now, it blows the Lexus out of the sky. Pow. Parachute. Smoking crater.

Oh, you can quibble over one detail or another. The LaCrosse’s roof A-pillars are huge and make it hard to look through a corner on a tight, two-lane road (it’s also possible to lose sight of pedestrians in crosswalks). There are moments that the cabin, with its Aqua Velva-blue ambient lighting, thick chrome instrument bezels, luminous LCD screens and spread of glowing buttons, looks like the flight deck of some drug-addled dirigible.

But no fair appraisal of this car can conclude anything but that the Buick is as good as or better than the Lexus in every way: It’s as dead quiet, as thoughtfully designed, as this-minute in its technology. My top-of-the-line CXS had a 3.6-liter direct-injection V-6 under the scalloped hood, a six-speed Aisin automatic transmission, continuously variable suspension damping with Sport mode, Harman/Kardon sound system, touch-screen navigation and adaptive headlamps. Out the door at \$39,195.

And yet with all of the semiconductor circuitry, servos, gadgets and displays, the LaCrosse feels deeply, foundationally sound. All is hushed and serene. Everything is damped. The whole car feels packed in ermine. It is an American Lexus.

But is that enough? In other words, has bench-marking the ES350—Lexus’ best-selling sedan, by the way—left the LaCrosse blind to challenges from other competitors in this segment? After all, the ES350 is a tarted-up Toyota Camry and enjoys its place in the market primarily because of the aspirational updraft of the Lexus brand. Personally,

the ES350 bores me like nothing since “The Fountainhead.”

How does the Buick stack up against, say, the Hyundai Genesis or the Infiniti G37 sedan, both finely tailored, tech-sodden sedans with rear-wheel drive?

with “Matlock”-watching crapulence (the average age of a Buick buyer is 68); the parent company, GM, is feeling the unaccustomed disdain of Red State America on account of the Obama administration’s \$83.5 billion

have to come equipped with naked wood nymphs to placate these dissidents.

Time for some shopkeeping: The base LaCrosse (\$27,835, delivered) is powered by a 3.0-liter direct-injection V-6 good for 255 hp. The up-level trim package is the CXL (\$30,395). Add all-wheel drive (with brake-based limited-slip differential) and the price goes to \$32,600. The top-shelf model is the CXS (\$33,765), with a 3.6-liter V-6 putting out 280 hp. The Touring Package adds 19-inch wheels and variable-damping suspension and Sport mode, with electronics that put a sharper edge on the transmission, steering, throttle and suspension responses.

Daringly, Buick will offer a 2.4-liter four-cylinder (172 hp/182 pound-feet of torque) in the LaCrosse this fall. That will be just about when gas prices will spike again, I predict.

Some people have wondered why GM kept the Buick division and shed Saturn, which has the freshest and most fuel-efficient product lineup. The answer: China. Buick is a prestigious luxury brand there, and in fact, the new LaCrosse was a joint effort between GM’s American and Chinese design studios. The Chinese contingent was responsible for the LaCrosse’s insanely fussed-over interior. Example: The dash material is synthetic leather, but it’s French stitched with real thread.

No corners are gracelessly cut here—no ugly cover plates, no exposed fastener buttons and the barest minimum of seams. The whole transverse sweep of the cabin, the two-tone materials bisected by a lyric bow of ambient lighting and wood grain that plays into the doors, looks great, especially at night.

GM execs claim the cabin reflects “feng shui” design principles in its sculpted and harmonious form language, although I might have expected

a red door somewhere. In any event, the interior is excellent. I parked the LaCrosse next to a new Lexus to compare, and it wasn’t even close.

Style aside, the biggest marker of Chinese influence is the car’s enormous back seat. According to GM, about 25 percent of Chinese buyers—entrepreneurs and corrupt bureaucrats—will be chauffeured. If legroom is high on cross-shoppers’ list, the LaCrosse will score a clean kill.

Complaints, I had a few. The exterior styling is really strong—masculine, well planted, with a lovely roof arch—in every direction but the front. I can’t quite fathom the headlight design, which looks like Dame Edna’s spectacles, and the odd chamfering of the hood, a design detail that doesn’t seem to go anywhere.

And the car is about 250 pounds heavier than it ought to be, a fact that robs the LaCrosse of some much-needed verve and agility.

The CXS gets off the mark smoothly, and it hits 60 mph in about 7.5 seconds—reasonably quick—but the extra weight doesn’t help it in corners, and there is the inevitable tendency of a front-drive car to overwhelm the tires and understeer.

I look forward to trying the all-wheel-drive model. To say the LaCrosse handles better than the ES350 is the damnedest of faint praise.

The weight is telling because weight is the most expensive thing to get out of a car. I read the poundage as an artifact of the pre-bankruptcy GM—indeed, a metaphor of the company before bankruptcy’s radical dieting.

Still, the LaCrosse is the car that most thought couldn’t be built by Buick. It’s actually desirable. On the long road to recovery, it’s a good start.



LOS ANGELES TIMES
The 2010 Buick LaCrosse CXS, with its ambient lighting, the virtually seamless interior looks great, especially at night.

What about the brilliantly executed Acura TL, with its torque-vectoring all-wheel drive? The competition among near-luxury, mid-size sedans makes a Cuban cockfight look tame.

Born in a blizzard of pink slips and a tsunami of tears, the Buick LaCrosse—the first new car launched by GM since it emerged from bankruptcy—has to be more than on par with some middling Lexus. It has to be fantastic.

This is a brand in a hole the size of AIG’s. Not only is Buick synonymous

auto-industry bailout.

I have not gotten a single e-mail from anyone saying, “You know, I love and support my country, so I’m going to buy a GM car.” But I’ve gotten maybe 100 e-mails that say, in effect, “I’ll never buy a GM car until the government gets out of the car business.”

Is the LaCrosse enough of a car for them to hold their noses past the stink of bankruptcy and the reek of government ownership? It’s a pretty great car, but honestly, I think the LaCrosse would

Life & Style

By THERESA VARGAS
 (C) 2009, THE WASHINGTON POST

Recession Road is part of a summer-long quest to find the stories of lives altered by a flattened economy. Reporter Theresa Vargas and photographer Michael Williamson left Washington on June 1 to cross the country and post an online journal of the characters and scenes they encounter. Here's a recent post from the blog, and some of Williamson's most touching images. You can find others at voices.washingtonpost.com/recession-road.

It hit us the other day. In all the miles we have traveled, no one has refused to talk to us. Not a single person has asked me to put away the notebook or raised a hand to block Michael's camera.

This surprises us.

We've been journalists for years, he three times longer than me, and we've had doors slammed in our faces and been called names for the simple fact that we showed up at a time when a person wanted noth-



THE WASHINGTON POST

In Caryville, Tenn., Charlie Carroll, 63, has been unable to find steady work. "I'll do anything," he says. "I'll mow your lawn. I'll detail your car. I just want to work." With him is Linda Proffitt, whose boyfriend has put in 23 job applications with no response.

ing less than to talk to the media.

We expected to encounter a bit of hostility on this trip. In a few rare cases, we've even had escape plans. They always end the same: If we get separated, meet at the car. After all, we are stepping into unfamiliar places and asking people questions even their friends don't broach. How much do you make? How do you use the restroom in a place with no running water? Do your children look at you differently now?

But from homeless camps to upscale neighborhoods, there have been few pauses, few hesitations before the answers came spilling out. It's as if the recession has changed what is acceptable to talk about. As if now that there is something bigger than all of us to blame, we can show our wounds.

It has probably helped that Michael and I have shown a few of our own along the way. How could we not? How could we listen to people talk



THE WASHINGTON POST

Las Vegas continues to attract new visitors, this one eager to see the sights before the car was even parked.



THE WASHINGTON POST

Ed Dale, an unemployed welder, reads letters inside his self-made home in a tent city in Nashville where other homeless people have also settled. His protection is plastic sheeting discarded from a nearby billboard when its advertisement changed. "I'm just trying to make the best of a bad situation," he says.

The frankness of strangers



THE WASHINGTON POST

In Las Vegas, Dolores Johnson was first in line at a job services help center in July. In June, the city's unemployment rate hit a record 12.3 percent.

all day long about hardship and not be reminded of our own brushes with it?

"I can describe four types of trailers because I know what it's like to live in them,"

Michael said one day.

He also knows what it's like to sneak cans of tuna because he was hungry and to be served sugar sandwiches, which are exactly as they sound, sugar between two pieces of bread. I used to eat chip sandwiches—again, made exactly as you'd expect.

Still, we are well aware of the differences between our stories and the ones we're hearing now—we had no way of knowing what we didn't have until we had it. The people we are meeting across America knew they had something, often had worked hard their whole lives to get it, only to lose it in the past year or so.

Their wounds are still painfully fresh. The fact that so many are willing to show them to us, knowing we will post them here for thousands to see, must say something about this recession.



THE WASHINGTON POST

The 55th annual Farmer's Day Dance brings out the revelers in Union, W.Va.

BEST SELLERS

Nonfiction

- 1 *Outliers*, by Malcolm Gladwell (Little, Brown: \$27.99) An exploration of the background of high achievers.
- 2 *Crazy for the Storm*, by Norman Ollestad (Ecco: \$25.99) The son of a daredevil tells of his life on the edge and how he survived a deadly plane crash.
- 3 *A Bright and Guilty Place*, by Richard Rayner (Doubleday: \$25) The sagas of an ambitious young lawyer, a prime suspect in a mob murder, and a police photographer paint a picture of early 20th century L.A.
- 4 *The Accidental Billionaires*, by Ben Mezrich (Doubleday: \$25) The story and phenomenon behind the founders of Facebook.
- 5 *Liberty and Tyranny*, by Mark R. Levin (Threshold Editions: \$25) The talk-radio personality's call to revitalize the conservative vision in America.
- 6 *Act Like a Lady, Think Like a Man*, by Steve Harvey (Amistad: \$23.99) The talk-show host lets women inside the mind-set of a man.
- 7 *Catastrophe*, by Dick Morris and Eileen McGann (Harper: \$26.99) A call to prevent President Barack Obama from transforming America into a socialist state.
- 8 *Unmasked*, by Ian Halperin (Simon Spotlight Entertainment: \$25) A look into the final years and days of Michael Jackson.
- 9 *Zeitoun*, by Dave Eggers (McSweeney's: \$24) The disappearance of a Syrian American father and good Samaritan in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.
- 10 *Culture of Corruption*, by Michelle Malkin (Regnery Publishing: \$27.95) An investigation into corruption in the Obama administration.

Fiction

- 1 *The Defector*, by Daniel Silva (Putnam: \$26.95) When a Russian defector disappears, Gabriel Allon is forced to track down a deadly arms dealer.
- 2 *Best Friends Forever*, by Jennifer Weiner (Atria: \$26.99) Two childhood friends on the outs since high school reconnect when one is in trouble.
- 3 *Shanghai Girls*, by Lisa See (Random House: \$25) Two sisters from Shanghai encounter tragedy and heartbreak as they are sold into arranged marriages in 1930s Los Angeles.
- 4 *Breaking Dawn*, by Stephenie Meyer (Little, Brown: \$22.99) The final book in the Twilight saga finds Bella choosing immortality.
- 5 *The Girl Who Played With Fire*, by Stieg Larsson (Knopf: \$25.95) A heroine hacker, implicated in two murders, must revisit her past to prove her innocence.
- 6 *The Angel's Game*, by Carlos Ruiz Zafón (Doubleday: \$26.95) A novelist in 1920s Barcelona, Spain, takes a dangerous writing assignment.
- 7 *The Shimmer*, by David Morrell (Vanguard: \$25.95) A police officer searching for his missing wife encounters unexplained nighttime phenomena.
- 8 *The Help*, by Kathryn Stockett (Putnam: \$24.95) The lives of a maid, a cook and a college graduate become intertwined while changing a Mississippi town.
- 9 *Swimsuit*, by James Patterson and Maxine Paetro (Little, Brown: \$27.99) A supermodel disappears from a photo shoot in Hawaii.
- 10 *Twenties Girl*, by Sophie Kinsella (Dial Press: \$26) A woman is visited by the spirit of her great aunt requesting she locate a long-lost necklace.



Mary Franklin breaks into a dance step while performing with peers at a senior citizen center in the Watts section of Los Angeles.

Old-timers turn into sharp rhymers

By JULIETTE FUNES
(C) 2009, LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—No one can rock it on the mike like Patsy Cole, also known as Lady P, a 48-year-old rapper and grandmother of 28, with two more on the way. She hustles, flows, rhymes and raps, all with the intention of conveying an important message to kids and teens: If the youngsters can do it, so can she.

Two summers ago, Cole began attending a class developed by hip-hop artist Keith Cross called the "Senior Citizen Rap Class," a monthlong community project in Los Angeles' Watts neighborhood that attempts to bridge the gap between young and old through a shared love of music.

"The first day was awesome," she said. "I wrote my first rap, and I thought, 'I did that.'" She has since formed a gospel rap group to positively influence the young people in her life.

"Sometimes when we're young we have dreams and don't get to pursue them. We let them go," she said. "But it's never too late, no matter your age, to pursue your dreams."

About 40 family members and friends gathered recently at the Watts Senior Community Center to watch the rappers perform their original pieces at the conclusion of this summer's class.

Cole was joined by Aline Murphy, 73; Sarah "Sneedy Weedy" Sneed, 75; Charles "Gentle Ben" Herbert, 50; and Mary Franklin, whose age remained a mystery as she brought the audience to its feet with her freestyle dancing and upbeat rapping.

Murphy, Cole's mother, thought she was too old to be in the class and initially couldn't stand rap, but she has been attending the event since its inception in 2004. A blues and R&B singer originally from Memphis, Tenn., Murphy was enthusiastic to be on the stage.

"It was great," she said afterward. "I've always sang, but not rap. It's a great experience to be able to get through to the kids."

The program targets senior

citizens who have little tolerance for the music their grandchildren listen to daily.

"I think they're the furthest removed from rap music," Cross said. "There's not a knowledge passed on from old to young, and that's because we're pointed in two different directions. Teaching them how to rap would be perfect."

Through an Artist in Resident grant from the Los Angeles City Department of Cultural Affairs, which enables a local artist to implement a cultural program in a community that doesn't traditionally focus on the arts, Cross has been able to teach the class every summer.

However, it isn't easy to get seniors into a class that focuses on rap, mainly because of what it's associated with—gangs, drugs, violence and the exploitation of women.

"A lot of seniors now are turned off by a lot of the nega-

tivity you hear in rap music," Cross said. "What they hear now is disrespectful rap music on the radio. They have a misconception that all rap is bad."

Cross instead uses music like blues and soul to compare their lyrical and musical elements to that of hip-hop.

"Music is something we all have in common ... and is something we can all get together around if it's presented right," Cross said. Learning how to analyze music also encourages them to find other musical influences for their children and grandchildren, Cross said.

"There is positive rap out there; we just have to look for it," he said.

Cross understands the older generation's dislike for contemporary rap. His rap music used to be graphic, but that changed when he became a substitute teacher and saw the influence hip-hop music had on his students.

Death and Funeral Announcement

In loving memory of

†Antonio Cabrera Cruz
a.k.a: Antonio Pinchang

July 11, 1962–August 3, 2009

of Saipan was called to his eternal rest on Monday, August 3, 2009 at the age of 47.

Parents: Jose Reyes Dela Cruz and Maria Tenorio Cabrera Dela Cruz

Father-In-Law: Antonio M. Baniquid

Brothers: Francisco Matacolai Pangilinan and Joseph Cabrera Cruz

Sister: Hermina Cabrera Dela Cruz Fleming

He will live in the hearts and memories of those who love him

Wife: Eufemia Baniquid Cruz

Mother-In-Law: Josefina B. Baniquid

Children: Charles Anthony S. Cruz; Antonia Lyn B. Cruz and Jonathan P. Davisson; Jonathan Michael B. Cruz; Joseph Steven B. Cruz; Ralph Simon B. Cruz

Sisters/Brothers and Spouses: Patty Pangilinan and Children; Jose Rios and Children; Rebecca P. Farmers and Phillip Farmers and Children; Maryann B. Cruz and Children; Rosa C. Sablan and Anthony A. Sablan and Children; Lawrence Fleming and Children; Norma C. Cruz and John Woo and Children; Dolores C. Cruz and Children; Bertha Marie Cabrera and William Ayunu and Children; Joseph Cruz and Henie Cruz and Children; Angelo Cruz and Lebrada Cruz and Children; Vivian Cruz Viches and Carlos Viches Children; Edwina M. Bell and Scott Bell and Children; Melissa Cruz; and Katrin Cruz.

Sisters and Brothers In-Law: Belinda D. Baniquid;

Antonio D. Baniquid; Prescila D. Baniquid; Susana D. Baniquid; Jose June D. Baniquid; Marina D. Baniquid; Mario D. Baniquid

He is survived by numerous Nieces and Nephews and their spouses.

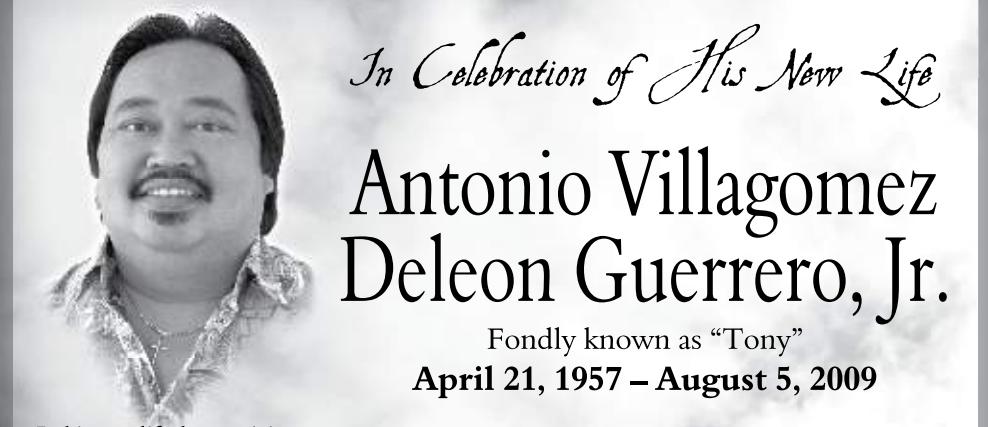
Mass of Intention is being offered daily at 6:00 a.m.

at Mt. Carmel Cathedral.

On Tuesday, August 11, 2009 his remains will be out from CHC Morgue at 7:30 a.m. to CHC Chapel for viewing and last respect. The responso will be at 9:45 a.m. The body will leave CHC Chapel at 10:00 a.m. and escorted to Mount Carmel Cathedral for Mass.

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30 a.m. followed by interment service at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Wife, Children and Family



In his new life, he now joins:

Parents:

+ Antonio Reyes Deleon Guerrero (Apa)

+ Maria Villagomez Deleon Guerrero (Lafet)

+ Teodoro F. Beldad

+ Gregorio V. Deleon Guerrero

+ Erlinda Y. Deleon Guerrero

+ Joseph Direge

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife:

Alice Beldad Deleon Guerrero

Children & Grandchild:

Polly Marie B. Deleon Guerrero & Floyd Masga

Anthony James B. Deleon Guerrero (Anthony Jacob)

Dean Jonathan B. Deleon Guerrero

Devin Darrien B. Deleon Guerrero

Mother-in-Law:

Enriqueta E. Beldad

Brothers & Sisters:

Pedro V. & Jeannette M. Deleon Guerrero & family

Edith DLG. & Joaquin Q. Cruz

Angie V. Deleon Guerrero

Celina DLG. & Matias A. Chargualaf & family

JM V. & Rieko A. Guerrero & family

Ramon V. & Sophia C. Deleon Guerrero & family

Margarita DLG. & Ricardo Camacho & family

Brothers & Sisters In Law:

Lydia B. & Joseph Cruz & family

Melvin & Janet Beldad & family

Therese B. & Paul Balajadia & family

Marcia B. & Francisco M. Camacho & family

Teodoro Beldad

Raymond Beldad

Joleen B. Direge & family

Joey Beldad

Tony is also survived by numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and relatives.

Daily mass is being offered every morning at 6:00am and the nightly Holy Rosary at 7:00pm at the Mount Carmel Cathedral until August 12, 2009.

His remains will be escorted from the Borja Funeral Home to the Mount Carmel Cathedral at 7:30am on Thursday August 13, 2009. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11:00am followed by the interment services at the Mount Carmel Cemetery in Chalan Kanoa.

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers from Alice, children, grandchild and family.

First Death Anniversary Masses

We the Children of
Maria (Terang) Terlaje Santos Muna

would like to remind relatives and friends
as we celebrate the eternal life of our
Mother/Grandmother/Great Grandmother.

Daily Mass of Intention will be said at 6:00 a.m. at
Mt. Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa beginning

Wednesday, August 12 to 20, 2009

except Sunday, August 16, 2009, (9:00 a.m. mass)

Also, Daily Mass of Intention will be said at 6:00 p.m. at
St. Jude Church beginning Wednesday, August 12-20 2009
except Saturday, August 15, 2009 (7:00 a.m. mass)
and Sunday, August 16, (8:00 a.m. mass)

Please join us for light refreshment

on Thursday, August 20,

after the 6:00 am Mass

at the Joeten Daidai Social Hall at
Mt. Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa.

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers!

The Children



'G.I. Joe' commands box office with \$56.2M debut

LOS ANGELES (AP)—G.I. Joe is the latest toy to invade Hollywood and plant its blockbuster flag.

Inspired by the Hasbro action figure, Paramount's "G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra" took command of the weekend box office with a \$56.2 million debut domestically, according to studio estimates Sunday. "G.I. Joe" also took in \$44.3 million overseas for a worldwide total of \$100.5 million.

Meryl Streep's Julia Child tale "Julie & Julia" opened a solid No. 2 as an alternative for adult crowds with \$20.1 million. While "G.I. Joe" was the first choice for young males, women 35 and older were the main audience for "Julie & Julia."

"G.I. Joe" follows Paramount's "Transformers" franchise as the latest toy story to

1. "G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra," \$56.2 million.
2. "Julie & Julia," \$20.1 million.
3. "G-Force," \$9.8 million.
4. "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," \$8.9 million.
5. "Funny People," \$7.9 million.
6. "The Ugly Truth," \$7 million.
7. "A Perfect Getaway," \$5.8 million.
8. "Aliens in the Attic," \$4 million.
9. "Orphan," \$3.73 million.
10. "500 Days of Summer," \$3.7 million.

find success on the big screen.

Harsh reviews for "Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen" earlier this summer prompted

Paramount to skip critic screenings for "G.I. Joe" and put the movie in theaters sight-unseen by most reviewers.

Critics generally trashed the "Transformers" sequel, yet it had a colossal opening and is on its way to joining the handful of movies to top \$400 million domestically. Based on that disparity between critical and commercial reaction, the studio decided it could do without reviews for "G.I. Joe."

"The thing we saw from 'Transformers' is that with these kind of movies, at times critics have a hard time getting their arms around them," said Rob Moore, Paramount vice chairman. "But the audience got exactly what it was. A fun summer movie, a great way to end your summer. You just relax and have a good time. You don't have to



AP

Left to right: U.S. actors Marlon Wayans, Rachel Nichols, Channing Tatum, British actress Sienna Miller and South Korean actor Lee Byung-hun pose for photographers during the Japan premiere of their latest film "G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra" in Tokyo Monday, July 27, 2009.

worry about global politics or global warming."

Critics who went to see "G.I. Joe" after it opened gave it mixed reviews at best, with many branding it mindless action but some finding it fun and entertaining.

The weekend's other new wide release, Universal's slasher thriller "A Perfect Getaway" with Steve Zahn and Milla Jovovich, opened weakly at No. 7 with \$5.8 million.

The previous weekend's top movie, Adam Sandler and Seth Rogen's "Funny People," tumbled to No. 5 with \$7.9 million, down a whopping 65 percent from its opening weekend. The Universal release has taken in \$40.4 million so far.

"G.I. Joe" pulled Hollywood out of a monthlong box-office swoon compared with last summer. The overall box office came in at \$147 million, up 22 percent from the same weekend a year ago, when the Batman blockbuster "The Dark Knight" still was the No. 1 flick after

four weeks in release.

"Joe" kind of saved the day," said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com. "We needed a box-office hero to turn things around, and we certainly got it."

But summer revenues continue to lag behind last year's, with receipts this season down about 1 percent.

"G.I. Joe" features Dennis Quaid, Channing Tatum, Sienna Miller, Marlon Wayans and Joseph Gordon-Levitt in a globe-trotting adventure about an elite military unit taking on a corrupt arms dealer.

While the G.I. Joe action figures started out as all-American heroes, the movie expands their story to include an international team of good guys to capitalize on overseas box office, which nowadays can equal or exceed domestic receipts for Hollywood movies.

"One of the best markets on the movie was Russia," Moore said. "How far G.I. Joe has come. He was incredibly popular in Russia."

"Julie & Julia" casts Streep as celebrated chef Child and Amy Adams as a woman trying to revitalize her own life by cooking every recipe in Child's "Mastering the Art of French Cooking."

Sony opened it opposite "G.I. Joe" to give adults a fresh option after a summer of action adventures, family flicks and comedies.

"We felt the audience we were going to start with was going to be very hungry by this point," said Rory Bruer, Sony's head of distribution. "It's a really fun movie with heart and humor and good food."

Child was also a hit on Amazon.com this weekend. "Mastering the Art of French Cooking" was the Web site's top seller Sunday, while Child's memoir "My Life in France" was No. 9.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Monday.

Japanese actress arrested in Tokyo

TOKYO (AP)—Actress Noriko Sakai has been arrested on drug charges, police said Sunday, after she turned herself in following a week of frenzied media speculation about her lifestyle and whereabouts.

The 38-year-old celebrity had been missing since her husband was arrested last Monday for alleged drug possession, and she later became a suspect herself.

Speculation about her actions and location has dominated headlines in recent days in Japan, where even light infractions that would be shrugged off by celebrities elsewhere can ruin careers.

The singer and actress was arrested after she appeared at a police facility in Tokyo on Saturday night, a police spokesman said. He declined to give his full name, citing department policy. He said she was arrested in connection with an anti-stimulant



In this undated photo, shown is Japanese actress Noriko Sakai.

law, but it was not clear if she had been charged.

Sakai debuted on a video at the age of 15 in 1986, but rose to fame through acting in TV dramas and singing in the 1990s. She recently became a mother and revived her career by appealing to older female fans. Sakai is popular in China, Hong Kong and Taiwan and is well known across

Asia—an unusual achievement for a Japanese actress.

She had a number of large advertisement deals, including with giant carmaker Toyota, when the scandal unfolded. Broadcaster NHK reported Sunday that Toyota and other advertisers were pulling her TV commercials and canceling contracts. Calls to Toyota's public relations department Sunday in Tokyo went unanswered.

The president of Sun Music Production, the talent company that manages Sakai, apologized for the affair late Saturday.

Masahisa Aizawa told reporters in Tokyo that Sakai had looked thinner than usual when he last saw her in mid-July and that he told her at the time to make sure she was eating enough.

She should "tell everything, without covering anything up," Aizawa said. "I want her to get a fresh start on life."

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GI JOE

Fri. and Sat. 1:20 4:30 7:25 9:30
Sunday 1:20 4:30 7:25
Mon. thru Thurs. 4:30 7:25

Dennis Quaid, Channing Tatum
War • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

From the Egyptian desert to deep below the polar ice caps, the elite G.I. Joe team uses the latest in next-generation spy and military equipment to fight the corrupt arms dealer Destro and the growing threat of the mysterious Cobra organization to prevent them from plunging the world into chaos.



A Perfect Getaway

Fri. and Sat. 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00
Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00
Mon. thru Thurs. 4:00 7:00

Steve Zahn, Milla Jovovich
Thriller • Rated R

Synopsis

Cliff and Cydney are an adventurous young couple celebrating their honeymoon by backpacking to one of the most beautiful, and remote, beaches in Hawaii. Hiking the wild, secluded trails, they believe they've found paradise. But when the pair comes across a group of frightened hikers discussing the horrifying murder of another newlywed couple on the islands, they begin to question whether they should turn back. Unsure whether to stay or flee, Cliff and Cydney join up with two other couples, and things begin to go terribly wrong.



Funny People

Fri. and Sat. 1:15 4:05 7:10 10:05
Sunday 1:15 4:05 7:10
Mon. thru Thurs. 4:05 7:10

Adam Sandler, Seth Rogen
Comedy • Rated R

Synopsis

When seasoned comedian George Simmons learns of his terminal, inoperable health condition, his desire to form a genuine friendship cause him to take a relatively green performer under his wing as his opening act.



G-Force

Fri. and Sat. 1:15 4:15 7:30 9:45
Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:30
Mon. thru Thurs. 4:15 7:30

Nicolas Cage, Steve Buscemi
Action, Animated • Rated PG

Synopsis

Fri. and Sat. 1:30 4:25 7:20 9:45
Sunday 1:30 4:25 7:20
Mon. thru Thurs. 4:25 7:20

Thomas Haden Church, Carter Jenkins
Adventure, Family • Rated PG



Harry Potter and The Half Blood Prince

Fri. and Sat. 1:05 4:10 7:15 10:10
Sunday 1:05 4:10 7:15
Mon. thru Thurs. 4:10 7:15

Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson
Fantasy, Adventure, Sequel • Rated PG-13

Synopsis

Fri. and Sat. 1:25 4:20 7:05 9:50
Sunday 1:25 4:20 7:05
Mon. thru Thurs. 4:20 7:05

Peter Sarsgaard, Isabelle Fuhrman
Thriller, Horror • Rated R

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Miley Cyrus, 'Twilight' sweep Teen Choice Awards

UNIVERSAL CITY, Calif. (AP)—Miley Cyrus rode a wave at the Teen Choice Awards.

The teen queen sailed away with six surfboard-shaped trophies at Sunday's ceremony. Cyrus won for comedy TV actress and comedy TV show for "Hannah Montana," music/dance movie actress and hissy fit for the "Hannah Montana" movie, music single for "The Climb" and summer song for "Before the Storm." She also presented Britney Spears with the ultimate choice award.

"I'm a huge fan of hers," Cyrus said before a subdued Spears accepted her own surfboard.

Cyrus was among several multiple award winners at the 11th annual ceremony at Universal Studios Hollywood's Gibson Amphitheatre.

Show hosts the Jonas Brothers kicked off the ceremony by performing "Much Better" on a tiny stage that moved through the audience. They won five awards, including choice male red carpet icons and breakout TV show for "Jonas."



The biggest winner of the night was vampire drama "Twilight," which sucked up nine movie awards: choice drama, romance, liplock, rumble, drama actress for Kristen Stewart, drama actor for Robert Pattinson, villain for Cam Gigandet, fresh face female for Ashley Greene and fresh face male for Taylor Lautner, who will also appear in the upcoming sequel, "New Moon."

"We'll see you guys in theaters Nov. 20," Lautner teased the squealing crowd.

Other big winners included "Gossip Girl" and Zac Efron. Chace Crawford, Leighton Meester and Ed Westwick picked up drama actor, actress, villain and TV series awards for the suds CW series while Efron won for music/dance movie actor in "High School Musical 3" and comedy movie actor and rockstar moment in "17 Again."

Miley Cyrus arrives at the Teen Choice Awards on Sunday Aug. 9, 2009, in Universal City, Calif.

AP

Taiwan's Chou cast as Kato in 'Green Hornet'

HONG KONG (AP)—Taiwanese R&B sensation Jay Chou will make his Hollywood debut playing Kato in the Columbia Pictures adaptation of "The Green Hornet," replacing Hong Kong comedian Stephen Chow.

Columbia Pictures announced the casting decision in a statement early Saturday.

Chow had originally signed on to direct the film and play Kato—the sidekick character portrayed by Bruce Lee in the 1960s TV series—but dropped out over the past year, saying he wanted to focus on developing a superhero movie with Jack Black.

"Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" director Michel Gon-

dry replaced Chow as director.

Gondry said Chou impressed him during auditions by getting along well with Canadian actor Seth Rogen, who will play the title character.

"Jay is incredibly unique and charming and fights like a wild dog! When I filmed him next to Seth, they had such great chemistry," the French director was quoted as saying in the Columbia Pictures statement.

Chou said he was a bit intimidated by following in Bruce Lee's footsteps but said: "I won't try to be Bruce Lee's Kato. I will try to bring my own interpretation to the part."

The Green Hornet characters

debuted in a radio series in 1936 on WXYZ Detroit and starred in several comic books. In 1966, they inspired an ABC-TV series starring Van Williams as the title character and Lee as Kato. It ran for one season.

Nicolas Cage and Cameron Diaz are also in talks to star in the Columbia Pictures adaptation, scheduled to be released in the summer of 2010, a studio spokesman said earlier.

Known for his slurred delivery of soulful ballads and upbeat R&B numbers, the 30-year-old Chou started his career as a songwriter but quickly became a huge pop sensation after releasing his debut album in 2000.



In this Sept. 12, 2008 file photo, TV host Elisabeth Hasselbeck arrives to the US Weekly 25 Most Stylish New Yorkers party in New York.

'The View' star Hasselbeck has 3rd child, a boy

NEW YORK (AP)—Elisabeth Hasselbeck of "The View" is the mother of a third child. Hasselbeck gave birth Sunday afternoon in a New York hospital to a boy, named Isaiah Timothy. She's married to former NFL player Tim Hasselbeck.

It's the couple's second son. Grace Elisabeth is 4, and Taylor Thomas is 20 months old.

Isaiah weighed in at 7 pounds, 7 ounces.

The new dad reports: "Elisabeth and Isaiah are doing great."

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Sting calls on Iran to release political prisoners

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sting is calling for the release of political prisoners in Iran and lashing out against the country's human rights violations. In a statement, the British rock star specifically called on Iran to release prominent Iranian-American academic Kian Tajbakhsh. Iranian authorities arrested Tajbakhsh for the second time in recent years last month amid a crackdown following disputed June 12 presidential elections. In a statement posted on a Web site promoting Tajbakhsh's release, Sting urged Iranians to speak out against the government's "system of political repression and human rights violation." Tajbakhsh is currently on trial, accused of fomenting unrest following the elections. Family and supporters deny the charges and have accused the Iranian government of staging a show trial. In 2007, Tajbakhsh, a social scientist and urban planner, spent four months in prison on charges of endangering national security. He denied the allegations.

Venice Film Fest introduces 3D film award

ROME (AP)—The storied Venice Film Festival is updating its awards lineup by offering a prize for the best 3D movie of the year. Organizers said in a statement Saturday that nine films will com-

pete for the new award at the festival's 66th edition on Sept. 2-12. The movies include blockbusters "Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs," "Monsters vs. Aliens" and "Up." Organizers last week announced that 23 films would be vying for the festival's top award, the Golden Lion. The entries are all world premieres and include Michael Moore's documentary on the financial crisis, called "Capitalism: A Love Story," and former Gucci designer Tom Ford's directorial debut, "A Single Man," starring Colin Firth and Julianne Moore.

Gary Sinise headlines free concert in Denver park

DENVER (AP)—"CSI: New York" star Gary Sinise is headlining a free concert aimed at bringing attention to renovation efforts at Denver's Civic Center Park. Sinise says the recent renovation of Millennium Park in Chicago, where he is from, inspired him to want to play the concert Saturday for the nonprofit Civic Center Conservancy. "When they asked me to be a part of this, I jumped on it," Sinise said. Local band Opie Gone Bad opens for Sinise's Lt. Dan Band, named after the character in the movie "Forrest Gump" that earned him an Academy Award nomination for best supporting actor. Conservancy officials say the concert's goal is to make people aware of restoration and renovation efforts planned for the nearly 100-year-old park.

Runaway sister's poor health may put her life in jeopardy

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My 18-year-old sister, "Cheryl," left home abruptly a week ago. She suddenly stopped taking all her medications, shut off her cell phone and left town with her underage boyfriend. She is a delightful person who also happens to be diabetic, asthmatic and bipolar. Mom received one phone call (from a landline) mentioning that she "might" be heading toward the East Coast.

I consider my sister dangerous to herself and others because she has a history of reckless violence when she's off her meds. My question is, how can you find someone who doesn't want to be found when they NEED to be found?

HEARTBROKEN SISTER IN INDIANA



Dear Abby

DEAR SISTER: If you think YOU are worried, what about the parents of the underage boy? Your next step should be to contact them and also your mother, so that all of you can notify the police and report them missing. And when you do, be sure to inform them that your sister has several conditions that require medications, that she's off all of them and could be a danger to herself and the young man. Then cross your fingers.

DEAR ABBY: I have recently met a woman I really connect with, but I have a problem with settling down. I have always had difficulty restricting myself to one person when I'm seriously dating. I want to change so my lifestyle won't come back and bite me in the butt—but I'm not sure what to do.

What I'm asking is, what do you suggest for someone like me to get comfortable with the idea of settling down so that I won't be destined for failure?

UNSURE IN RICHMOND, VA.

DEAR UNSURE: Slow down. You may have been dating the wrong women. When two people are truly compatible, there is less temptation to look for other company. Take things slowly and get to know the lady you're currently dating. If she qualifies in all the areas you think are important and you still find yourself looking around for something in addition, then you may have a problem and should talk to a therapist because no one woman can ever completely satisfy a man who craves variety.

DEAR ABBY: My father, who is in bad health, recently announced that he would like to be cremated and buried at the foot of my mother's grave. My birth mother died 28 years ago when I was 2, after they had been married only three years.

Dad married my stepmother when I was 8. I feel he should be buried with the wife he's been with for 22 years. She is the one who has seen him through the worst times in his life, his heart attack and stroke. My stepmother seems to have no negative feelings about it.

Am I wrong for thinking that a husband and wife should lie side-by-side when their time comes—with a single headstone with their names and dates of birth/death/marriage? Or is there some tradition I don't know about that he should be buried with his first wife?

ENQUIRING IN CLARKSTON, WASH.

DEAR ENQUIRING: Your stepmother is realistic and unsentimental. She knows your father was married before, and they may have discussed this between the two of them. Perhaps she feels that because your father prefers to be interred with your mother, that's where he belongs. Your stepmother had him during the most important years—while he was living and breathing. And who knows? She may marry again, so think positively.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



MAYBE AFTER HE PUTS US TO BED, DAD DONS SOME WEIRD COSTUME AND GOES OUT FIGHTING CRIME! MAYBE THIS WHOLE 'DAD' STUFF IS JUST A SECRET IDENTITY!



MAYBE THE MAYOR CALLS DAD ON A SECRET HOT LINE WHENEVER THE CITY'S IN TROUBLE! MAYBE DAD'S A MASKED SUPERHERO!

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®



IF THAT'S TRUE HE SHOULD DRIVE A COOLER CAR... I KNOW, OURS DOESN'T EVEN HAVE A CASSETTE DECK.



ANOTHER THREATENING LETTER FROM MRS. FEENY SHE'S HIRED A TAXIDERMIST



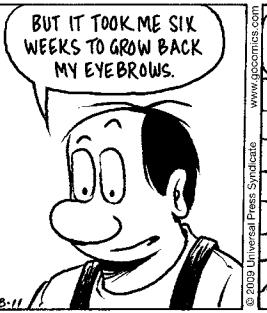
THAT'S HIS CONCEPT SKETCH I LOOK SO LIFELIKE

By Jim Davis

Adam@home



OKAY, MR. BBQ, I'M HERE TO WORK MY MAGIC. NOW, I'M NOT BLAMING YOU FOR WHAT HAPPENED LAST TIME.



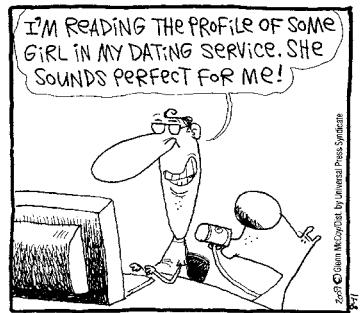
BUT IT TOOK ME SIX WEEKS TO GROW BACK MY EYEBROWS.



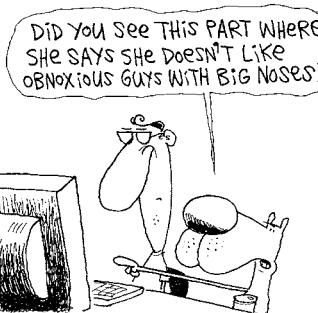
SO IF YOU'LL BE NICE TO ME, I'LL SCRAPE YOU EXTRA IN THAT SPOT YOU LIKE.

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



I'M READING THE PROFILE OF SOME GIRL IN MY DATING SERVICE. SHE SOUNDS PERFECT FOR ME!



DID YOU SEE THIS PART WHERE SHE SAYS SHE DOESN'T LIKE OBNOXIOUS GUYS WITH BIG NOSES?



YEAH. WHY DO YOU ASK? NO REASON.

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

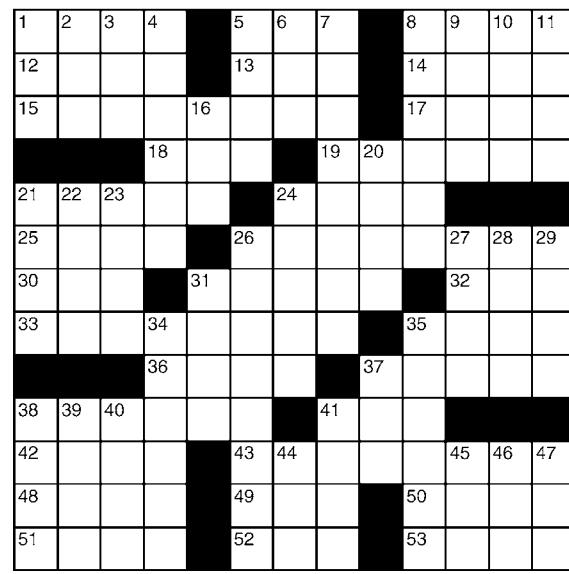
By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	36 "We'll tak' — o' kindness yet"	DOWN	21 Anti-toxins
1 Send forth	1 Recede	2 — de mer	22 Get ready quickly?
5 Radio watchdog org.	37 Tennessee county	3 Playwright Levin	23 Sylvester's impediment
8 Tarzan's mate	38 Palin's bailiwick	4 Computer fixer	24 Rose
12 Exposed	41 Awful	5 Yard portions	26 Spiciness
13 Blunder	42 Society newbies	6 Weep	27 Prison
14 Reed instrument	43 Yuletide refrain words	7 Slapstick missile	28 Hathaway or Heche
15 Shiner	48 Sandwich shop	8 One of the Bachs	29 Tibetan herd
17 Get better	49 Poolroom stick	9 Help a crook	31 Ailing
18 Smack	50 Con	10 Ark builder	34 Dog of film and TV
19 Carelessness?	51 Terrier type	11 Slithery bark	35 Abduct
21 Alley "oops"?	52 Shrill	16 Tool set	37 Cowboy's sweetie
24 Fed	53 —	20 Analgesic target	38 Tosses in
25 Great Lake	moss		39 Onionlike vegetable
26 Haughty sort			40 With skill
30 In medias —			41 Gridlock sound
31 Audit, perhaps			44 Overseas agreement?
32 Literary collection			45 Inseparable
33 Decorative cutout			46 Greek vowel
35 Eccentricity			47 Torched

Solution time: 21 mins.



Yesterday's answer 8-11



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5951 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: J-Boog, 24; Ashley Jensen, 40; Joe Rogan, 42; Hulk Hogan, 56

Happy Birthday: Set up goals and a game plan. It's a matter of taking charge and making life choices that will suit you for years to come. A relationship worth keeping will be with the person who is willing to help you achieve your dreams. This is a time in your life to look forward, not back. Your numbers are 2, 12, 16, 22, 27, 30, 43



ARIES (March 21-April 19): The influence you have will get everyone moving in the same direction. Mix business with pleasure and you will seal a deal. Don't count on getting support from someone you are close to; an issue of jealousy may be the problem. ☽☽

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You may have a problem making a decision, especially when emotional issues are involved. Stay true to yourself and refuse to agree to something you don't feel right about. Be practical. ☽☽

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Consider what's going on before you react. You will end up controlling the situation. Not everyone is on your side but the people who are will have enough clout to support your plans. ☽☽

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Do whatever it takes to appease the people around you. If you can get people thinking your way, it will be much easier to get things done. A love issue may crop up, especially if someone from your past is talked about or shows up unexpectedly. ☽☽

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll have to take on more if you want things to happen. Financial gains are apparent. Settle any dispute or legal settlement that has been dragging on. Progress can be made if you are persistent. ☽☽

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Develop a working relationship with someone who has something to offer in return and you will have a winning combination. Talk to the people who can support your dreams, hopes and wishes and you will sign a deal. ☽☽

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll have an opportunity to do something spectacular if you don't take too long making up your mind. Put your skills to the test and don't be afraid of failure. Your ability to make things work will lead to your success. ☽☽

Taurus (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Stay on course and finish what you start. If you let someone lead you off in a direction that won't benefit you, much will be lost. Don't let a little adversity slow you down. Encouragement will help ease stress. ☽☽

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Gather up all the information you can about something you want to pursue. Your research and findings will lead to a greater interest in someone or something that can be beneficial socially, financially and professionally. You'll make a worthwhile connection. ☽☽

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Get what needs to be done out of the way before someone complains. The more you

Scorpio (Feb. 19-March 20): Concentrate on what you can do to get ahead professionally. An experience you encountered with someone from your past will help you make the right choice now. Don't let anxiety get the better of you. ☽☽

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take the good with the bad and the old with the new and you will position yourself for victory. It's so easy to lose your way when you are just going through the motions. Once you incorporate an old plan with your new ones, you will have greater vision. ☽☽

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Concentrate on what you can do to get ahead professionally. An experience you encountered with someone from your past will help you make the right choice now. Don't let anxiety get the better of you. ☽☽

Birthday Baby: You are outgoing and charismatic—a helper and a good friend. You have charm, fortitude and common sense. You are original and entertaining.

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun, eugenialast.com for confidential consultations

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD
IN ASTROLOGY



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contribute, the more say you will have in the end. Show you are willing to pitch in and you will win popularity. ☽☽

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take the good with the bad and the old with the new and you will position yourself for victory. It's so easy to lose your way when you are just going through the motions. Once you incorporate an old plan with your new ones, you will have greater vision. ☽☽

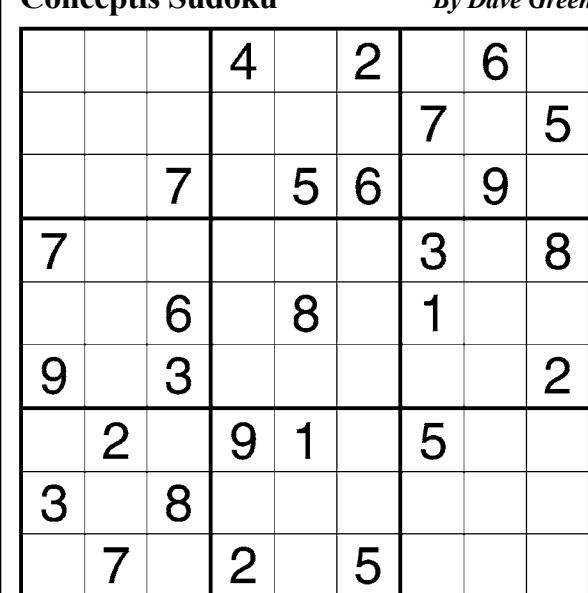
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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

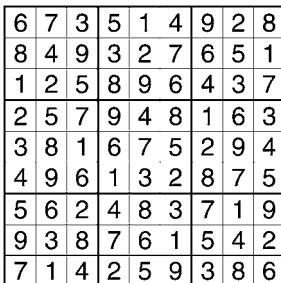
By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★

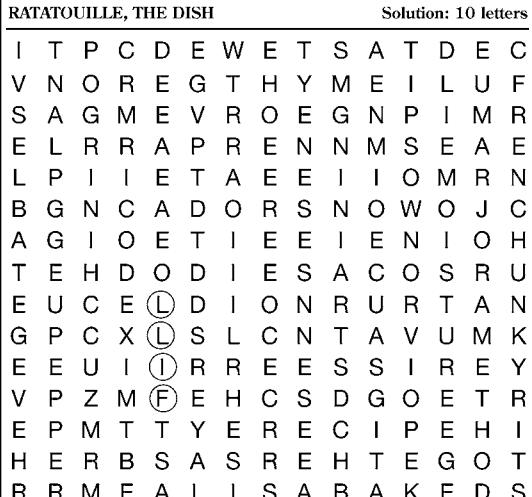
WONDERWORD®

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle—horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

RATATOUILLE, THE DISH

By DAVID OUELLET

Solution: 10 letters



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Baked, Basil, Chef, Chunky, Crepes, Cuisine, Diced, Dinner, Eggplant, Fill, French, Green, Herbs, Ingredients, Layers, Marjoram, Meal, Method, Mixed, Moisture, Noodles, Onions, Pepper, Poirot, Prepare, Recipe, Sauce, Serve, Simmer, Simple, Sliced, Stewed, Stir, Straining, Taste, Thyme, Together, Tomatoes, Variations, Vegetables, Wine, Zucchini
Yesterday's Answer: Piglets

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WHATZIT Solution: Cock-and-bull story

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Attorney for Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM,) Small Claims
Plaintiff,) No. 09-0323
vs.) AMENDED
TEOFILO S. SALVANI,) SUMMONS
Defendant.)

TO: THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT TEOFILO S. SALVANI

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO APPEAR by the 21st day after the fourth date of publication of this AMENDED SUMMONS and defend the above entitled action in the CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, at the Office of Clerk of Court, CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, 1st Floor, Guma' Hustisia, Ilimwal Aweewe, House of Justice, Susupe Village, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan MP 96950-0307; and answer the complaint of the plaintiff Bank of Guam, and serve a copy of your answer upon Robert Tenorio Torres, attorney for Plaintiff Bank of Guam, at Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya), P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950; and in case of failure to do so, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the COMPLAINT, which has been filed with the Clerk of Court.

So ORDERED this 21st day of July, 2009.

/s/ Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court

James and Jesusa Cabrera
P.O. Box 5662
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No. 322-5989/287-6102

PRO SE**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN RE THE MATTER OF THE) FCD GU
PETITION TO APPOINT) CIVIL ACTION
GENERAL GUARDIANSHIP) NO. 09-0435
FOR:)
JAESEN RAE CABRERA) NOTICE OF
by) HEARING
JAMES CABRERA and)
JESUSA R. CABRERA)
Petitioners.)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition to Appoint a Guardian for the above-named minor children by James Cabrera and Jesusa Cabrera Petitioners, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court and is open for review at the office of the Clerk of the said Court in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A HEARING of said petition for Guardianship will held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Guma Hustisia Building, Susupe, Saipan, NMI, before the Honorable Kenneth Govendo on the 1st day of September, 2009 at 9:00 A.M. or as soon as thereafter.

By: Bernadita A. Sablan
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WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

rooster taurus tale

Find today's solution in this section

**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

P.O. BOX 501370 CK, SAIPAN, MP 96950

HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT PROMOTIONAL & OPEN COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT

It is the policy of the Board of Education, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, that the Public School Personnel System shall be applied and administered according to the principles of equal employment opportunity as defined by the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Public Law 6 - 10, regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, handicap or place of origin. Applicants for this position must be a U.S. Citizen or be eligible and authorized to work in the U.S., including the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Announcement No: PSS - 2009 - 052 Application & Employment Type: Non-Certified

Position Title: **LEGAL COUNSEL (Amendment / Re-Announcement I)**

Pay Level/Step: **UNGRADED** Per Annum Salary: **\$40,000.00-\$60,000.00**

Opening Date: **JULY 20, 2009** Closing Date: **AUGUST 20, 2009**

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***Detailed job description with qualification requirements can be obtained at PSS Human Resources Office at the 3rd Floor Retirement Building, Capitol Hill, or download it online www.pss.cnmi.mp/humanresources**

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY OBTAIN A DETAILED JOB DESCRIPTION WITH QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION FORMS AT THE PSS HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE AT THE 3RD FLR. RETIREMENT BUILDING, CAPITOL HILL. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST BE ATTACHED TO COMPLETE APPLICATION FORMS: (1) COPY OF DIPLOMA/DEGREE, (2) TRANSCRIPTS, (3) POLICE CLEARANCE (FROM PLACE OF RESIDENCE FOR PAST SIX MONTHS), (4) VERIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT LETTER, (5) RESUME, AND (6) TEACHING CERTIFICATE (IF APPLICABLE).COMPLETED APPLICATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE, RETIREMENT BUILDING; THIRD FLOOR, P.O. BOX 501370 CK, SAIPAN, MP 96950, and TEL. #. (670) 237-3051, FAX # (670) 664-3707. ALSO VISIT <http://www.pss.cnmi.mp/humanresources> ON THE WORLDWIDE WEB.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Tiger rallies to win at Firestone



AKRON, Ohio (AP)—The battle was everything Tiger Woods expected. The finish was nothing anyone imagined, except for Woods hoisting another World Golf Championship trophy at Firestone.

Woods was in trouble in the trees on the famous par-5 16th hole, one shot behind Padraig Harrington, trying to figure out how he could squeeze out a victory Sunday in the Bridgestone Invitational.

He delivered another signature moment, this one an 8-iron from 178 that wound up a foot from the hole for birdie. Moments later, with an official timing his every shot, Padraig Harrington rushed his way into a stunning meltdown. He hit five straight shots without losing his turn, made triple bogey and became a mere bystander the final two holes as Woods won for the 70th time in his career.

Woods closed with a 5-under 65, becoming the first player in PGA Tour history to win seven times on the same golf course and giving him back-to-back victories going into the PGA Championship, his last chance to win a major this year.

Woods won it with an 8-iron that was pure theater.

"When I hit it, I knew it was going to be a good one," he said. "I thought it was going to be just a little bit past the hole. I was surprised it spun that much considering it was that much downwind. But it came back and ended up a kick-in."

He believes Harrington lost it with a stopwatch that was unnecessary.

They were timed earlier in the round, then told by John Paramor, the PGA Eu-

ropean Tour's chief referee, they were on the clock on the 16th tee, with Harrington in the lead by one shot. Knowing he had no time to contemplate his escape from the trees, the collar of a bunker and a dicey flop shot behind the green, he turned the hole known as "The Monster" into an utter mess.

The pivotal play was his fourth shot behind the green, which came out hot and into the water.

"I had an awkward fourth shot," Harrington said. "I had to go after it and probably rushed that a bit. That was the end of that."

Harrington told Woods when it was over, "We'll do battle many times again."

Woods, who holds the three-time major champion in high esteem, looked forward to that.

"Like I was telling him out there, 'I'm sorry that John got in the way of a great battle,' because it was such a great battle for 16 holes," Woods said. "We're going at it, head-to-head, and unfortunately that happened. Paddy and I will definitely do it again."

Asked if he won because of an 8-iron or a stopwatch, Woods replied, "Both."

Paramor said the final pairing was 17 minutes behind schedule on the 16th hole and "we had no choice but to put them on the clock."

The dispute clouded an otherwise remarkable rally for Woods, who won his 16th title in just 30 starts in the World Golf Championships series, and picked up a lot of momentum headed to Hazeltine.

Woods, who has won the Bridgestone Invitational seven times in 10 starts and has never finished out of the top five, closed out his remarkable afternoon in style with a 6-foot birdie putt.



himself with a one-shot lead heading for the homestretch.

What cost Harrington was his second shot from the trees, which he tried to land some 80 yards short of the green. Instead, he pulled the 5-iron to the grassy slope of the bunker, and had to decide quickly his next move after watching Woods stuff the 8-iron.

"It was a superb golf shot. It was a phenomenal shot," Harrington said. "I struggled to hit that green with a lob wedge, so it was pretty impressive. But I was having my own troubles at that stage."

From behind the green, the shot is all down hill toward the water. Harrington could have played sideways and assured himself of a bogey, but he figured a par was his chance to win the tournament.

"I just got it a little bit too much on the club face and didn't get under it enough, and it came out too strong," he said.

The four-shot swing was the tournament. For the first time all day, Woods finally felt in control.

Ultimately, the winner didn't surprise anyone.

Hunter Mahan, who shot 66 and tied for fourth, looked up at the leaderboard early in his round and saw that Woods already had erased a three-shot deficit after four holes.

"That's what he does," Mahan said. "He could play this course left-handed and do well."

A short time later, Camilo Villegas left the clubhouse and passed by the British-based Sky Sports broadcast crew watching on TV. Woods and Harrington were on the 12th hole.

"What are you watching for? You know what's going to happen," Villegas said with a smile.

The final hour was full of surprises, except for Woods winning at Firestone.

Tiger Woods poses with the trophy after winning the Bridgestone Invitational golf tournament Sunday, Aug. 9, 2009, at Firestone Country Club in Akron, Ohio.

His fifth victory this year and 70th of his PGA Tour career put him three behind Jack Nicklaus, and 12 victories away from the all-time record held by Sam Snead.

"We locked horns pretty good," Woods said. "I made a couple of mistakes. Paddy was being consistent, grinding it out, doing all the right things. Unfortunately, 16 happened. But it was a great battle all day."

It was every bit of that.

Woods won for only the sixth time in his career when trailing by three shots or more, a deficit that didn't last long.

He hit his approach into the par-5 second hole just over the bunkers to 25 feet to make eagle, and two more birdies was enough for him to take the lead after only five holes. From the right rough on the ninth fairway—a rare miss on the front nine—Woods hit to 7 feet for a birdie that gave him a 30 on the outward nine and a two-shot lead.

Harrington, a three-time major champion with a tough mind, kept grinding away with pars and regained a share of the lead with his first birdie of the day on the 11th. And when Woods made consecutive bogeys, Harrington found

AP source: Timberwolves, Rambis reach coaching deal



MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Long considered the heir apparent to Phil Jackson in sunny Los Angeles, Lakers assistant Kurt Rambis is taking a much different, and colder, route to a head coaching job.

Rambis and the Minnesota Timberwolves have an oral agreement and are completing details of the contract, which is expected to be announced early this week, according to a person with knowledge of the negotiations. The person spoke to The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity Sunday because an announcement has not been made.

Timberwolves president David Kahn said in a text message he met with Rambis' agent Sunday but has yet to conclude the deal.

The selection ends a seven-week search after Kahn decided in June not to keep Kevin McHale. Rambis was one of three finalists, with TV commentator and former NBA star Mark Jackson and Houston assistant Elston Turner.

The 51-year-old Rambis has the most head coaching experience of the group. He has been a Lakers assistant for 10 years, was their head coach in the lockout shortened 1998-99 season and has filled in on several occasions for his Hall of Fame coach.

Rambis won four titles with the Lakers as a player and three more as an assistant. He comes to a franchise that

Griffin, Hansbrough resting summer injuries

GREENBURGH, N.Y. (AP)—Blake Griffin grabbed a microphone for a little practice working in TV. Tyler Hansbrough pulled up a chair and watched one.

There's not much else for the two rookies to do until they can get back on the court.

Griffin and Hansbrough are injured, sending the All-Americans to the sidelines and away from basketball activities after promising starts to their pro careers during summer league play.

They were in New York on Sunday along with their classmates for the rookie photo shoot, where the NBA's first-year players were photographed by Panini in the poses that will appear on their trading cards.

But while many players shot around during breaks at the Madison Square Garden training facility, Griffin and

has seen many more losses than wins, especially of late.

The Wolves have not made the playoffs since Kevin Garnett led them to the Western Conference finals in 2004. They have won just 46 games in the last two seasons and have changed coaches four times in the last five years.

Minnesota won just 24 games last season and will have an even younger

Hansbrough had to find other ways to keep themselves busy.

Griffin should be back soon. The No. 1 overall pick was told late last month to rest his strained right shoulder for three to four weeks, and neither Griffin nor the Los Angeles Clippers believe the injury will cause any long-term problems.

"It's one of those deals where it's not like a serious injury, but it needed rest to get back to 100 percent," Griffin said. "They just didn't want me to go start playing again and do something to risk it further."

Hansbrough's injury is more severe. He was wearing a large black walking boot to protect a right shin injury that could keep the Indiana Pacers' top pick out through the start of training camp. The team said on July 31 he would be out for up to two months,

team next season, with star forward Al Jefferson coming back from a torn knee ligament.

In his first summer on the job, Kahn has made three trades already and expects to make more before the season. Right now, the player with the longest tenure is Corey Brewer, who was drafted in 2007.

Kahn was hired to run the basketball

though Hansbrough wasn't sure what his timetable was.

The Pacers said Hansbrough was hurt last season while leading North Carolina to the NCAA championship, though he played well while appearing in all five games of the Orlando summer league.

"I felt good about it," he said. "For me it was just an opportunity to learn some of the offenses, some of the things that we like to do and run, and it kind of gave me a chance to learn some stuff besides just trying to cram it before the season."

Hansbrough didn't seem particularly concerned while discussing his health as he watched NASCAR coverage, having become a bigger fan after taking part in the festivities at the Allstate 400 at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway last month.

side of the Timberwolves franchise in May and spent the next three weeks or so meeting with McHale before announcing on June 17 he would hire someone else.

He interviewed more than a dozen candidates and cut the field to three two weeks ago. Rambis flew to the Twin Cities on Wednesday night to meet owner Glen Taylor.

Rambis, a Californian who spent most of his 14-year playing career with the Lakers, interviewed for jobs in Sacramento and Philadelphia this offseason. He couldn't work out a deal with the Kings, and the 76ers went with Eddie Jordan.

Rambis should add some grit to the Wolves. That was his specialty as a player, when the bespectacled, wild-haired hustler would ignite fans at the old Forum by diving for loose balls, throwing an elbow or two to get position in the post and grabbing rebounds to start the famed Showtime fast break.

In a curious twist, Rambis feuded with McHale when the latter played for the Boston Celtics in the 1980s. McHale's clothesline of Rambis in the 1984 NBA finals is an enduring image from one of basketball's great rivalries.

Rambis' standing was no doubt bolstered by his ties to Phil Jackson, who has won more NBA titles than any other coach. Rambis was the team's top defensive strategist during last season's run to the title and was able to watch how Jackson handled players and media.

Jackson turns 64 next month and has gotten a clean bill of health. Last season, he was troubled by pain and swelling in his lower legs. He has had two hip replacements since 2006 and uses a cane at times. He also had an angioplasty in 2003.

Damon, Teixeira power Yanks to win over Bosox



NEW YORK (AP)—Johnny Damon and Mark Teixeira hit back-to-back homers in the eighth inning Sunday night, and the New York Yankees beat the Boston Red Sox 5-2 to finish their first four-game home sweep of their bitter rival in 24 years.

Victor Martinez hit a two-run homer off Phil Coke (4-3) in the top of the eighth, snapping Boston's 31-inning scoreless streak and making it 2-1.

Daniel Bard (0-1) retired the first two hitters in the bottom half before Damon drove a 98-mph fastball over the right-field fence, bringing the fourth consecutive sellout crowd at Yankee Stadium to its feet.

The fans didn't have a chance to sit down, either, before Teixeira went deep

DuPuy on Ortiz: 'I accept what he says'

NEW YORK (AP)—Baseball's No. 2 official takes David Ortiz at his word that over-the-counter supplements and vitamins likely caused him to wind up on a list of alleged drug users.

"I'm not in a position to believe or disbelieve. I accept what he says," Bob DuPuy, baseball's president and chief operating officer, said Sunday.

Detroit Tigers manager Jim Leyland also backed Ortiz.

"I could care less what anybody else thinks," Leyland said. "If David Ortiz said he didn't knowingly take anything, I believe him."

Ortiz said at a news conference Saturday that he never knowingly used steroids. Two senior executives from Major League Baseball attended his news conference at Yankee Stadium, a sign of management support.

The New York Times reported last month that Ortiz and Manny Ramirez were on the federal list and said in June that Sammy Sosa was on it. In February, Sports Illustrated reported Alex Rodriguez was on the list, and Rodriguez later admitted using Primobolan from 2001-03.

Batting .171 (6 for 35) with two homers and six RBIs since the July 30 report, Ortiz was not in the starting lineup for Sunday night's series finale against the Yankees. With the crowd chanting "Steroids!" he pinch hit in the ninth inning and walked as New York won 5-2 to complete a four-game sweep.

"I think he's exhausted mentally and physically," Red Sox manager Terry Francona said before the game.

Samples and records from baseball's anonymous survey in 2003 were seized by the federal government the following year from drug-testing companies as part of the Bay Area Laboratory Cooperative investigation into Barry Bonds and others. The list of 104 players said to have tested positive, attached to a grand jury subpoena, has been the subject of a five-year legal fight, with the union trying to force the government to return the material taken during raids.

to right two pitches later and untied it with his league-leading 29th homer.

Nick Swisher added a two-run single off Hideki Okajima later in the inning, which made it an easy night for Mariano Rivera. The All-Star closer earned his major league-leading 32nd save.

Tigers 8, Twins 7

At Detroit, Placido Polanco hit a go-ahead single in the eighth inning, helping Detroit beat Minnesota.

The AL Central-leading Tigers have won five of seven games to keep their lead over the Chicago White Sox and third-place Twins. Minnesota has lost seven of nine and trails the Tigers by 5 1/2 games.

Brandon Lyon (5-4) pitched a scoreless eighth and Fernando Rodney closed the game for his 23rd save in 24 chances.

Matt Guerrier (5-1) gave up a lead-off double in the eighth. Minnesota manager Ron Gardenhire then chose to walk free-swinging Curtis Granderson to face a contact hitter in the hopes of getting a double play, and Polanco made him pay for the decision with a bloop single to right to put Detroit ahead 7-6.

Rangers 7, Angels 0

At Anaheim, Calif., rookie Derek Holland threw a three-hitter against the majors' highest-scoring offense for his first career shutout, and Texas gained ground on the AL West-leading Angels.

The 22-year-old Holland didn't allow a hit until the sixth inning of his 12th career start as Texas took two of three from the Angels in their weekend series, cutting Los Angeles' lead in the AL West to 3 1/2 games.

Holland needed just 96 pitches against the Angels' overeager hitters, who drew only one walk and never reached second base while Holland outpitched Los Angeles ace John Lackey (7-5).

Lackey left in the seventh after a career-high 131 pitches, yielding eight hits and two earned runs in his first defeat since July 7.

Blue Jays 7, Orioles 3

At Toronto, Roy Halladay won his 10th straight decision over Baltimore, and Vernon Wells and Marco Scutaro hit two-run homers in a four-run third.

Halladay (12-5) allowed three runs and nine hits in eight innings, walked one and struck out four. The right-hander is 20-4 with a 2.89 ERA in 31 career games against the Orioles.

Scutaro matched a career high with four hits and Kevin Millar homered and went 3-for-3 with a walk.

Baltimore rookie Brian Matusz (1-1), making his second career start, gave up the three home runs.

Athletics 6, Royals 3

At Kansas City, Mo., Bobby Crosby homered twice and Ryan Sweeney hit a three-run shot, lifting Oakland to a win over the Royals.

Sweeney and Crosby hit consecutive homers in the second inning off Luke Hochevar (6-5) to stake Brett Anderson (8-9) to an early 4-0 lead. The Royals scored three runs in the seventh to get within one, but Kurt Suzuki hit a solo homer in the eighth and Crosby had one in the ninth to put the A's up 6-3.

Indians 8, White Sox 4

At Chicago, Jamey Carroll hit a go-

ahead RBI double in the fifth inning and added a solo homer in the seventh, leading Cleveland to its third straight series win against a division rival.

The Indians have won 12 of 18.

Cleveland starter David Huff (6-6) shook off a three-run second inning to pitch into the seventh. The left-hander allowed four runs on eight hits in 6 1/3 innings.

A.J. Pierzynski and Alexei Ramirez hit solo home runs for the White Sox, who fell three games behind the Detroit Tigers in the AL Central.

Jose Contreras (4-11) allowed four runs on six hits in 4 2/3 innings.

Mariners 11, Rays 2

At Seattle, Russell Branyan broke out of a slump with his first grand slam

the second longest in their five seasons in the nation's capital. They won 10 straight from June 2-12, 2005.

J.D. Martin (1-2) became the fifth Nationals pitcher to record their first win as a starter—and the second in two games. On a sultry afternoon, Martin allowed one run and five hits in five innings. He walked one and struck out one.

Marlins 12, Phillies 3

At Philadelphia, Josh Johnson pitched six impressive innings, helping the Marlins complete a three-game sweep over the Phillies.

The Marlins moved within four games of the NL East-leading Phillies with their first sweep in Philadelphia since April 2004. The Phillies fell to 3-8



AP

New York Yankees' Johnny Damon, left, high fives with Mark Teixeira after Damon hit a home run during the eighth inning of a baseball game against the Boston Red Sox Sunday, Aug. 9, 2009 at Yankee Stadium in New York.

in six years, Ryan Rowland-Smith rebounded from a shaky beginning to pitch effectively into the seventh inning and Seattle rolled over Tampa Bay.

Franklin Gutierrez's second consecutive three-hit game included a game-turning home run in the second inning off Scott Kazmir (6-7).

Rowland-Smith (2-1) allowed two early runs but nothing else. He struck out a season-high six in 6 2/3 innings, as Seattle took two of three games from last season's AL champions to stay on the fringes of the wild-card race.

Nationals 9, Diamondbacks 2

At Washington, Elijah Dukes drove in three runs and Ryan Zimmerman had three hits as the Washington Nationals won their eighth straight game with a victory over the Arizona Diamondbacks.

The Nationals' eighth-game run is

since acquiring reigning AL Cy Young Award winner Cliff Lee in a blockbuster deal with Cleveland on July 29.

Johnson (11-2) allowed one run and four hits, striking out six.

Jamie Moyer (10-9) gave up three runs and 11 hits in five-plus innings, failing to strengthen his case to stay in Philadelphia's crowded rotation.

Astros 2, Brewers 0

At Houston, Wandy Rodriguez pitched seven shutout innings and Geoff Blum hit a two-run homer in the Astros' win over the Brewers.

Rodriguez (11-6) allowed five hits and struck out three in his first start since leaving his outing eight days ago with a strained right hamstring. He won his sixth straight decision and gave up one earned run or fewer for the seventh consecutive appearance.

Jose Valverde got the final four outs for Houston to earn his 15th save of the

season and second of the series.

Cardinals 7, Pirates 3

At Pittsburgh, Skip Schumaker's first career pinch-hit home run started a five-run eighth-inning rally for St. Louis that included Pirates pitcher Matt Capps' ejection for hitting Albert Pujols, as the Cardinals finished off a three-game sweep.

The Pirates lost a 3-2 lead in the eighth while dropping their eighth in a row, all at home. They are two losses away from their longest home losing streak since PNC Park opened in 2001, a 10-game run in 2005.

Joel Pineiro (10-9) fell behind 3-0 as Steve Pearce hit a two-run homer, but stayed in to pitch seven innings and improve to 4-0 in his last seven starts.

Reds 5, Giants 2

At San Francisco, Aaron Harang ended the worst winless stretch of his career with his first victory since late May, Brandon Phillips and Adam Rosales each homered and the Reds beat the Giants.

The Giants, who had won six straight home series, fell into a tie with Colorado for the NL wild card lead after the Rockies beat the Chicago Cubs 11-5 at Coors Field.

Rockies 11, Cubs 5

At Denver, Todd Helton had three hits to extend his hitting streak to 14 games and Dexter Fowler scored three times.

Carlos Gonzalez also had three hits for Colorado, which had 14 hits.

Milton Bradley went 4-for-5 and Koyie Hill had three hits for the Cubs, who had a season-high 17 hits despite playing most of the game without manager Lou Piniella.

Piniella was ejected after a heated argument with second base umpire Chris Guccione over his call in a disputed second-inning double-play. Piniella argued that second baseman Clint Barnes wasn't on the bag on the relay throw from third, which would have allowed Jeff Baker to score.

Mets 5, Padres 1

At San Diego, Johan Santana threw eight strong innings and tied his career high with two hits and an RBI as the New York Mets avoided a four-game sweep with a win over the Padres.

Santana (13-8) tied for the major league lead in wins as he held the Padres to one run on five hits as New York won for only the third time in 11 games.

Santana helped himself with the bat as he singled twice, drove in one run, scored a run and had one walk.

The win snapped the Mets' eight-game losing streak at Petco Park and was just their third win against San Diego in 15 games.

Braves 8, Dodgers 2

At Los Angeles, Javier Vazquez won his fifth straight decision with eight solid innings as the Braves beat the Dodgers to take three of the four games in their weekend series.

Vazquez (10-7) reached double digits in wins for the 10th consecutive season, handing the NL West-leading Dodgers their 10th loss in 15 games. The Braves have won five of their last six, and are four games over .500 (58-54) for the first time since they were 5-1 on April 12.

IT&E schools PSS in opener, Docomo wins

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Defending champion IT&E taught Public School System how to win a game even with a depleted line-up: Start strong and hang in there.

IT&E, which played with only six players, built an early lead in the first quarter against a complete, but sluggish PSS crew to cruise to a 75-57 victory at the start of the 2009 IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The host, which won over Autonomous in last year's finals, held PSS to only five points in the first period to take a commanding 23-5 lead.

PSS was without a field goal in more than the first three minutes of the game, as it struggled offensively and defensively. A break-away layup from Derrick Augenbaugh finally put PSS in the scoreboard at the 6:43 mark of the first period. Bob Coldeen added a free throw a few minutes later and the third basket of the quarter came in the closing seconds of the opening period.

Edsel Mendoza started IT&E's scoring with a split free throw and went on to notch nine more points in the first period. Elmer Esdrelon added six, Joemary Tumaquip chipped in three, and Juan Manibusan canned a side jumper off an Esdrelon feed.

The five IT&E players were forced to play in no relief in the first quarter, as its sixth player, Ernie Fernandez reported to the game only midway in



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
IT&E's Edsel Mendoza goes for a reverse layup against PSS' Maverick Itibus during the opening game in the 2009 IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

IT&E its biggest lead at halftime, 36-16.

PSS picked up its scoring in the second half, but Mendoza and company were always there to match every basket PSS scored.

Fernandez, who was still feeling the game in the second period, started

around \$2,500 per person.

The opening ceremony of the Mini Games will be held in the afternoon of Sept. 21 at the Tereora Stadium.

The next day will be the start of the golf competition, along with table tennis, squash, lawn bowl, netball, athletics, and boxing. The golf competition will run until Sept. 25.

On Sept. 23, paddlers will race in the waters of Avarua Harbour and Muri Lagoon. The canoe races will run until Sept. 26.

Manglona will be the last CNMI athlete to compete in the Mini Games, as triathlon is set for Sept. 30. The Tinian triathlete will be participating in his first

a competitive, Olympic-distance course with the added bonus of being set on a tropical island. We thank the KFC Triathlon Club of Japan for working with our community to stage another successful event on Rota this year."

The entry fee for the A Type Solo Triathlon is \$80 (no completion time limit) and B Type Solo Triathlon is \$100 (completion time limit is eight hours). Entry fee for A Type Team Triathlon is \$210 for a team of three or \$140 for a team of two (no completion time limit).

Entry fee includes an event T-shirt, awards banquet entry, and a guaranteed great time. Top prizes also await

making contributions for IT&E in the second half, firing all his 14 points in the last 20 minutes of the game.

Mendoza led all scorers with 25 points, while Esdrelon added 21. Peter Mendiola nailed 24, while Gyles Ruluk finished with 10 for PSS.

In the second match, Docomo made a statement game, crushing Bank of Guam, 103-54.

Reinforced by UFO stalwarts Kae Bernardo and James Villacrusis, Docomo dominated Bank of Guam from start to finish.

Bernardo logged a game-high 28 points, while Villacrusis chipped in 19. Four other Docomo players finished in double figures, making the team one of the top offensive threats in the league. Kelvin Fitial drilled 15, Syl Teregeyo and Wowie Abuel had 12 apiece, and Jun Estolas contributed 11.

Twelve teams are battling for this year's title. Also on the list are Micronesian Brokers, Inc., Tinian, DCCA, CPA, ARFF, Customs, CHC, and Hyatt Regency Saipan.

First Game

IT&E 75 – Mendoza 25, Esdrelon 21, Fernandez 14, Tumaquip 8, Berline 5, Manibusan 2.

PSS 57 – Mendiola 24, Ruluk 10, Mendez 7, Buniag 7, Coldeen 5, Augenbaugh 2, Itibus 2.

Scoring by quarters: 23-5, 36-16, 53-37, 75-57.

Second Game

Docomo 103 – Bernardo

28, Villacrusis 19, Fitial 15, Teregeyo 12, Abuel 12, Estolas 11, Alvarez 6.

Bank of Guam 54 – Taisacan 19, Pelisamen 17, Lauron 10, Palacios 2, Martinez 2, Diaz 2, Mendiola 2.

Scoring by quarters: 33-17, 53-32, 72-41, 103-54.

off-island and regional tournament.

Meanwhile, White said members and officials of the Pacific Games Council will meet in Rarotonga on Sept. 27 to decide the host of the 2015 Pacific Games.

Tonga, Solomon Islands, and Papua New Guinea are the three nations hoping to host the next Mini Games.

Council president Vidhya Lakhan and executive director Andrew Minogue were in Port Moresby in early August last year to access PNG's capability to host the 2015 Pacific Games. The council's officials first visited the Solomon Islands and Tonga early last year.

Noumea, New Caledonia will host the Pacific Games in 2011.

the top three finishers in the men's and women's categories. The annual Rota Blue Triathlon is one of four major triathlon events held in the CNMI, along with the XTERRA Saipan Championship, Tagaman Triathlon, and the Tinian Turquoise Blue events.

The Rota Blue Triathlon is also sponsored by the Rota Mayor's Office, Rota Resort & Country Club, other government departments and agencies, and the people of Rota.

For more information about the Rota Blue Triathlon, contact the MVA by calling 664-3200/3201, or e-mail inquiries to kfc-onishi@gem.hi.ho.ne.jp or mva@mymarianas.com. (PR)

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	69	42	.622	—
Boston	62	48	.564	6 1/2
Tampa Bay	61	50	.550	8
Toronto	53	57	.482	15 1/2
Baltimore	46	65	.414	23

Central Division

Detroit	59	51	.536	—
Chicago	57	55	.509	3
Minnesota	54	57	.486	5 1/2
Cleveland	48	63	.432	11 1/2
Kansas City	43	68	.387	16 1/2

West Division

Los Angeles	65	44	.596	—
Texas	62	48	.564	3 1/2
Seattle	58	53	.523	8
Oakland	49	62	.441	17

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	61	48	.560	—
Florida	58	53	.523	4
Atlanta	58	54	.518	4 1/2
New York	52	59	.468	10
Washington	40	72	.357	22 1/2

Central Division

St. Louis	62	51	.549	—
Chicago	58	51	.532	2
Houston	55	56	.495	6
Milwaukee	55	56	.495	6
Cincinnati	48	62	.436	12 1/2
Pittsburgh	45	66	.405	16

West Division

Los Angeles	67	45	.598	—
Colorado	61	50	.550	5 1/2
San Francisco	61	50	.550	5 1/2
Arizona	50	62	.446	17
San Diego	47	66	.416	20 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Washington 9, Arizona 2
Florida 12, Philadelphia 3
St. Louis 7, Pittsburgh 3
Houston 2, Milwaukee 0
Colorado 11, Chicago Cubs 5
Cincinnati 5, San Francisco 2
N.Y. Mets 5, San Diego 1
Atlanta 8, L.A. Dodgers 2
Detroit 8, Minnesota 7
Toronto 7, Baltimore 3
Cleveland 8, Chicago White Sox 4
Oakland 6, Kansas City 3
Texas 7, L.A. Angels 0
Seattle 11, Tampa Bay 2
N.Y. Yankees 5, Boston 2

BRIDGESTONE INVITATIONAL SCORES

AKRON, Ohio (AP)—Scores Sunday after the final round of the \$8.5 million Bridgestone Invitational on the 7,400-yard, par 70 South Course at Firestone Country Club:

FINAL ROUND (FedExCup points in parentheses)				
Tiger Woods (550)	\$1,400,000	68-70-65-65—268		
Robert Allenby (258)	\$665,000	68-69-69-66—272		
Padraig Harrington (258)	\$665,000	64-69-67-72—272		
Hunter Mahan (128)	\$323,000	68-69-70-66—273		
Angel Cabrera (128)	\$323,000	70-68-68-67—273		
Steve Stricker (96)	\$214,333	67-69-71-67—274</		

13th FINA World Championships



The CNMI flag is on display along with other flags of participating nations in the 13th FINA World Championships in Rome, Italy.



Results in the 50m breaststroke were on display and showed Rezne Wong and Kai Staal's finishing first and third in the heat, respectively.



One of the competition's venue is packed by spectators, participants, and visitors.



Kai Staal plunges into the pool during the 50m backstroke qualifying race.



German fans cheer for their swimmers.



The CNMI swimmers, second row, join fellow participants, including the U.S.' Michael Phelps (with orange shirt covering his head), in the gallery to watch the races.



From left, Shin Kimura, Rezne Wong, and Cooper Graf pose for a group photo during a visit in famous places in Rome.



Rezne Wong, left, and Shin Kimura found time to pose in front of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome during a break in the World Championships.



Kai Staal, center, and Rezne Wong, right, pose with Philippines top swimmer Miguel Molina.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Cooper Graf is at the starting block for the 800m race.





**IT&E schools
PSS in opener,
Docomo wins**

Defending champion IT&E taught Public School System how to win a game even with a depleted lineup: Start strong and hang in there.

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Saipan Tribune Sports

28 TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2009

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Yvonne, Clayton head to World Championships

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Sprinters Yvonne Bennett and Clayton Kenty are not yet done representing the CNMI in off-island tournaments, as they headed to Berlin, Germany yesterday for the 12th IAAF World Championships in Athletics.

Bennett and Kenty just completed the Oceania Regional Championships 2009/Micronesian Athletics Championships in Queensland, Australia and together with 10 other CNMI athletes helped the Commonwealth dethrone three-time overall champion Guam. Kenty and Bennett's teammates returned to



Saipan early yesterday morning, while the two World Championships bets stayed in Guam for several hours to wait for their connecting flight to Japan. From Japan, they will board another connecting flight to Berlin.

The 19-year-old Bennett warmed up for the World Championships by winning three gold

medals (400m run, 4x100m relay, and 4x400m relay), one silver (100m run), and one bronze (200m run) in the Land Down Under. Kenty also took a couple of medals, claiming one silver

(men's 400m hurdles) and two bronze (men's 100m hurdles and 4x400m relay).

In the World Championships, Bennett is entered in the 100m race and since getting a medal

will be a long shot against the world's best sprinters, she instead is aiming to break the CNMI record she holds.

The CNMI mark in the women's 100m stands at 13.16

seconds, which Bennett posted during the 2007 World Championships in Osaka, Japan.

Making it to the World Championships for the second straight time is a sort of record for Bennett, as she had this achievement after being involved with athletics for only about four years.

"World Championships appearances in four years is really quite a feat and I am thankful to my coaches, teammates, and family for being supportive and helping me earn the honor to represent the CNMI in the World Championships. Every time I go out there and race, it gives me great pride that I am racing not for myself, but for the CNMI," Micronesia's fastest woman said.

While Bennett is expected to be used to the jitters of the high-level of competition in Berlin in her return trip to the World Championships, first-timer Kenty knows there maybe butterflies in his stomach once he races against the best of the world.

"I may get nervous at the starting line, but once I begin running, I will be focus on getting to the finish line and racing against myself," Kenty said.

The Marianas High School graduate will be competing in

See YVONNE on Page 26

Tiger

rallies to

win at Firestone

The battle was everything Tiger Woods expected. The finish was nothing anyone imagined, except for Woods hoisting another World Golf Championship trophy at Firestone.

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**Rota Blue
Triathlon set
for Nov. 14**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Japan's 2008 Beijing Olympian Ryoji Yamamoto topped last year's Rota Blue Triathlon after crossing the finish line of the 1.5-kilometer swim, 40-km bike, and 10-km run with a winning time of 1:57:18 in the men's A Type division.



The 16th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon will be held bright and early on Nov. 14 in the tranquil and beautiful island of Rota, the southernmost of the Northern Mariana Islands in the western Pacific.

Counting down the final three months before the annual Olympic-distance event, host Kiyokazu Fitness Club Triathlon Club of Japan is collaborating with the Marianas Visitors Authority in expectation of the international field of outdoor enthusiasts headed to Rota.

This year's edition of the Blue will consist of two separate events, both including a unique swim, bike, and run course. The A Type course requires participants to swim 1.5 kilometers, bike 40 kilometers, and run 10 kilometers to complete the course. For those looking to get more of a workout, B Type course will offer a 2.0 kilometer swim, a 90-kilometer bike course, and a 21-kilometer run. Both

See ROTA on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Ben Duenas, seen here taking his time before making a putt, will be representing the CNMI in the Pacific Mini Games 2009 in Rarotonga, Cook Islands next month.

CNMI has 8 delegates to Cook Islands Mini Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association has announced that the CNMI will be having eight delegates to the Pacific Mini Games 2009 in Rarotonga, Cook Islands.



See CNMI on Page 26

NMASA president Michael White, during the association's monthly meeting last Thursday, said the Commonwealth will be represented in the quadrennial meet by paddler Eddie Johnson, triathlete Joshua Manglona, and the CNMI

Inter Godfather's still unbeaten

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

**Northern
Mariana Islands
Football Association** kept its winning ways in the 2009 NMIFA Men's Football League after shutting out Matansa Football Club, 4-0, last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Inter Godfather's, which played its first game in the second round, has yet to drop a match in the regular season, gaining its sixth win against two draws. The Dale Roberts-captained Inter now has 20 points, strengthening its hold to the No. 1 spot.

Jake Hess drilled two goals in Inter Godfather's shutout win, opening the scoring with his first goal in the seventh minute of the first half. Bruce Berline also made it to the scoreboard, finding the back of the net in the 26th minute to give Inter a 2-0 halftime lead.

Inter Godfather's added two more in the second half, completing its long-game domination of Matansa. Sanjay Dangol



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Evan Hunsberger, seen here going for a save in their game against Matansa Football Club in first round of the regular season of the NMIFA men's league, and the Inter Godfather's defense shut out Matansa anew last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

gave Inter its third goal in the game in the ninth minute of the second half and two minutes later, Hess logged his second goal. With Matansa failing to score

against Inter Godfather's the former dropped to last place in the team standings with a 2-1-5 win-draw-loss record.

See INTER on Page 26